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Capacity-building
Capacity-building under the Convention
Capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol

Synthesis report on the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

This report has been prepared to support the Subsidiary Body for Implementation in its annual monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1. The report draws on information synthesized from national communications, biennial update reports, biennial reports, the 2014 annual report of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the 2014 annual report of the Nairobi Framework Partnership, and annual submissions from Parties. Information is presented according to the scope of needs and priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries outlined in decision 2/CP.7. This report may assist Parties in reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries and identifying ways to further enhance the delivery of capacity-building support to developing countries.

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* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the delayed submission of views and information by Parties.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate and scope of the report

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decisions 2/CP.7 and 4/CP.12, requested the secretariat to produce annually a synthesis report on activities undertaken to implement the framework for capacity-building in developing countries (hereinafter referred to as the capacity-building framework).

2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), by its decisions 29/CMP.1 and 6/CMP.2, requested the secretariat to take into account, in its annual synthesis report, capacity-building activities relating to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in developing countries.

3. In accordance with decision 1/CP.18,[1] the synthesis report, contained in this document, is made available to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its sessions coinciding with the meetings of the Durban Forum on capacity-building.[2]

4. This synthesis report summarizes available information on the extent of the implementation of the capacity-building framework. The information refers to activities reported between January and December 2014, and, owing to the reporting cycle, is mostly drawn from national reports submitted by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties)[3] as well as late submissions of national reports from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties).[4] The 2014 annual report of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) to the CMP (part I)[5] and the 2014 annual report of the Nairobi Framework Partnership[6] have also been considered in the summary of capacity-building activities undertaken under the Kyoto Protocol.

5. Submissions on the capacity-building of three groups of Parties[7] have been taken into account in the preparation of this report. Information submitted by United Nations organizations and other institutions is available in the addendum to this report.[8]

6. This report presents information according to the scope of needs and the priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries outlined in the capacity-building framework.[9] It summarizes the support provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties and highlights barriers and constraints to the implementation of the capacity-building framework. Given that several non-Annex I Parties submitted their first biennial update reports (BURs) by December 2014, information on capacity-building activities undertaken and barriers and constraints encountered in the process of the preparation of BURs has been summarized under the priority area 'national communications'.

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[1] Decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 78.

[2] See decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 144.

[3] Fourteen national communications and ten biennial update reports.

[4] Seven national communications and seven biennial reports.

[5] FCCC/KP/CMP/2014/5.

[6] See <https://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

[7] FCCC/SBI/2015/MISC.1. Submissions are also available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/SitePages/sessions.aspx?showOnlyCurrentCalls=1&populateData=1&expectedsubmissionfrom=Parties&focalBodies=SBI>.

[8] FCCC/SBI/2015/4/Add.1.

[9] Decision 2/CP.7, annex, paragraph 15.

7. As further work may have been undertaken after the submission of the source documents, the synthesis of information contained in this report may not convey the complete picture. There may also be gaps in areas where information was unavailable.

B. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

8. The SBI may wish to use the information contained in this report to:

(a) Undertake the annual monitoring of the implementation of the capacity-building framework;

(b) Facilitate discussions at the 4th meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building, which will coincide with SBI 42;[10]

(c) Determine any further steps to support enhanced action on capacity-building.

C. Overview of information reported and submitted by Parties

9. Information on capacity-building reported and submitted by Parties during the period from January to December 2014 covers all the priority areas identified in the capacity-building framework. In comparison with last year's synthesis report,[11] enhanced reporting is noted in the areas of institutional capacity-building, national communications (NCs), national climate change programmes, greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and assessment for implementation of mitigation options.

10. In their NCs and/or BURs, all non-Annex I Parties reported a wide variety of efforts undertaken to enhance the capacity at institutional, systemic and individual levels in order to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Information on capacity-building activities supported by Annex I Parties was also covered. Some non-Annex I Parties included detailed information in their BURs on support received through bilateral and multilateral channels in tables referring to technical and capacity-building needs. Reporting on capacity-building support delivered through technical assistance projects, programmes and partnerships in the context of South–South cooperation, in particular in the areas of development and transfer of technology, training, knowledge sharing and networking, also increased.

11. The process of the preparation of NCs and BURs facilitated the identification of barriers to the implementation of the capacity-building framework. All non-Annex I Parties that submitted national reports in 2014 identified the lack of financial resources as the most crucial barrier to the implementation of capacity-building action. This barrier impeded actions to create and/or maintain a robust institutional structure responsible for the design, planning and implementation of climate change policies and regulatory frameworks; to train managerial staff to facilitate the implementation of such frameworks and identify bilateral and multilateral agencies for cooperation and partnerships; and to train national experts to enhance their sectoral scientific and technical knowledge. Other barriers identified by non-Annex I Parties were, among others, obsolete national policies, legal and institutional frameworks; insufficient awareness and expertise of decision makers on climate change related issues; and a limited number of qualified experts.

12. Several non-Annex I Parties highlighted their interest in exploring technical cooperation opportunities on planning and implementing projects in the area of sustainable cities, transport and urban mobility, a topic widely covered under the technical expert

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[10] Decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 78.

[11] FCCC/SBI/2014/2.

meeting[12] in June 2014 under the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action.

13. All Annex I Parties included in their NCs and biennial reports (BRs) information on capacity-building support provided to developing countries. Examples of such support in BRs are contained not only in table 9, "Provision of capacity-building support", but also in table 7(b), "Provision of public financial support: contribution through bilateral, regional and other channels", and in table 8, "Provision of technology development and transfer support". Some Annex I Parties pointed out that projects included in table 9 are just a small selection of supported activities with a specific focus on capacity-building, because the latter is embedded in many other projects. One Annex I Party indicated that technology transfer and capacity-building activities are described under the same heading, as it is often difficult to distinguish between the two, and one activity often involves the other.

14. In general, Annex I Parties underlined the importance of a country-driven bottom-up approach to organizing capacity-building support, based on national needs and priorities of developing countries. They also stated that capacity-building is a joint learning process owned and operated nationally but taking place in partnership between developing and developed countries. Some Annex I Parties gave priority to building the capacity of countries and regions where poverty is directly linked to the deterioration of natural resources, environmental degradation and natural disasters.

D. Information on activities addressing needs and priority areas identified in the capacity-building framework

1. Institutional capacity-building, including the strengthening or establishment, as appropriate, of national climate change secretariats or national focal points

15. Most non-Annex I Parties reported on the establishment or strengthening of domestic institutional arrangements to support the planning and implementation of policies and measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation at all levels of governmental jurisdiction – national, state or provincial, and municipal. From this reported data, the following trends emerged:

(a) Dedicated national institutions were tasked to ensure the effective coordination between central and local authorities and the engagement of non-State actors; to integrate climate change related issues in strategies and plans of governmental agencies; and to design, implement, monitor and evaluate climate change programmes;

(b) Government officials were appointed in relevant ministries as climate change focal points and dedicated authorities were established, including designated national authorities (DNAs) for the CDM, national designated entities (NDEs) for the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), and designated authorities for the Adaptation Fund. Training courses for the staff of these authorities were organized to expand their knowledge on specific climate change related issues;

(c) Linkages were strengthened with national committees on biodiversity and desertification to promote synergies and harmonization of policies and strategies.

16. Establishing and strengthening institutional arrangements still posed challenges in several developing countries. The absence of incentives and adequate funds to ensure the development and implementation of robust institutional arrangements was one of the major obstacles reported by some non-Annex I Parties. Coordination between governmental agencies needed to be improved to avoid the overlap of roles and responsibilities or to

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[12] See <http://unfccc.int/bodies/awg/items/8170.php>.

prevent conflicts among ministries considering specific areas as being under their sole jurisdiction. Increasing the interactions between central governments and subnational entities was also a challenge. The insufficient capacity of institutions to ensure effective coordination was often caused by high staff turnover. Non-Annex I Parties also noted that the successful development and implementation of policies and plans of climate change institutions was hindered by the shortage of professionals with sectoral mitigation and adaptation expertise.

17. Several Annex I Parties reported on facilitating training courses and knowledge transfer on climate change related issues, including environmentally sustainable energy solutions, renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable urban planning and eco-buildings, for government officials at the national and municipal levels.

2. Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment

18. Many non-Annex I Parties reported having adopted national environmental policies and regulatory frameworks that incorporated climate change considerations and contributed to mainstreaming climate change issues in national planning and budgeting. Such policies provided a basis for programmes and action plans fostering sustainable development. One non-Annex I Party mentioned, among the measures undertaken to mitigate climate change, the introduction of a carbon tax on fossil fuels from stationary combustion sources in 2014.

19. Some non-Annex I Parties are still working towards putting regulatory frameworks in place to improve the coordination among national bodies in their approach to addressing climate change. Notwithstanding climate change being mentioned in the national legislation, there was still a need to adopt appropriate guidelines for long-term sustainable planning of environmental sectoral policies, strategies or action plans for green growth, a low-emission economy and resilience to climate change. Some of these Parties saw a need to adopt a finance policy to ensure that financial and other resources were allocated to, and utilized for, climate change related activities.

20. Several Annex I Parties reported having provided support to developing countries to create or strengthen enabling environments and improve legislative frameworks, including those for attracting private sector investments for green economic growth.

3. National communications

21. Several non-Annex I Parties reported having institutional arrangements in place to coordinate their activities, promote synergies and avoid the duplication of efforts in the preparation of NCs. Relevant institutions were created or appointed to work on specific chapters of NCs, such as GHG inventories; vulnerability and adaptation assessments; identification of mitigation options; and education, training and public awareness. A few non-Annex I Parties underlined the importance of a transparent and participatory approach to the preparation of NCs, based on collaboration among all stakeholders, including governmental and private institutions, academia and civil society.

22. Many non-Annex I Parties pointed out that the preparation of BURs required greater effort and capacity in comparison with those needed for the preparation of NCs. Some non-Annex I Parties stated that existing institutional arrangements were no longer appropriate and suitable to meet the new reporting requirements under the Convention. Other non-Annex I Parties described in their BURs the process of reviewing the existing set-up in order to implement a more robust system allowing them to meet the reporting obligations.

23. Some non-Annex I Parties acknowledged technical assistance through the provision of training materials and the organization of workshops by the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in the preparation of their first BURs. One non-Annex I Party reported that the

preparation of some chapters of its BUR was outsourced, and stated that the request for financial support to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the BUR preparation remained unanswered.

24. The development and implementation of robust institutional arrangements for the preparation of NCs and BURs were reported as important issues for many non-Annex I Parties. A stable and permanent institutional arrangement was necessary for defining regulatory and technical frameworks at the national level to facilitate the preparation of NCs and BURs as well as intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs). The establishment of permanent systems for measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of mitigation actions and other activities relating to the Convention was also considered of key importance. The provision of training and technical assistance on quality control, documentation and archiving, among others, was listed among the needs to be met. Some non-Annex I Parties stated that funds received from the GEF may not be sufficient to cover all the expenditures linked to the strengthening and maintenance of a robust, effective and efficient institutional arrangement for producing high-quality BURs and NCs on a regular basis.

25. A group of Parties acknowledged in their submission the work of the National Communications Support Programme funded through the GEF.

4. National climate change programmes

26. According to the information contained in NCs and BURs submitted by non-Annex I Parties, national climate change programmes or strategies were approved by many non-Annex I Parties in line with their national priorities. In some cases, cross-cutting issues such as environmental protection, sustainable management and utilization of natural resources or socioeconomic development were also included in national climate change programmes.

27. Several non-Annex I Parties reviewed and revised their national action programmes to reflect current and evolving issues relating to climate change at the local, national and international levels. One non-Annex I Party included capacity-building next to adaptation and mitigation as one of the main priorities of its national climate change plan of action.

28. Specific national plans targeted gender issues in the areas of building the adaptive capacity of women and men in their communities, increasing the resilience to climate change of vulnerable sectors, and optimizing mitigation opportunities towards a gender-responsive and human rights-based approach to sustainable development.

29. A few non-Annex I Parties reported the difficulty in mainstreaming climate change considerations in national strategies for sustainable development because of the insufficient sensitivity of policymakers towards climate change issues and the lack of awareness raising campaigns. Conflicting national priorities posed an additional challenge in this area: fighting poverty can divert attention away from addressing climate change. In this context, raising awareness among decision makers on the interlinkages between poverty, food security and climate change was important. The implementation of national plans could be facilitated if more financial resources were allocated to training on effective project management and MRV procedures.

5. Greenhouse gas inventories, emission database management, and systems for collecting, managing and utilizing activity data and emission factors

30. Very few non-Annex I Parties reported having a national GHG inventory system, which sets out institutional, legal and procedural measures to ensure the continuous and regular update of national GHG inventories, the consistency of reported GHG flows and the quality of results. The preparation of training materials targeting each sector, including a

step-by-step explanation of the process for completing inventory tables, and examples of good practices, data sources and emission factors was crucial in order to build the capacity of national experts and establish a GHG inventory team. Some non-Annex I Parties mentioned specific training courses and hands-on experience with inventory review materials for national experts who were eventually nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts for reviewing inventories of Annex I Parties.

31. All non-Annex I Parties identified constraints limiting or negatively impacting on the periodic preparation of a national inventory of GHG emissions. These constraints include:

(a) The absence of a national GHG inventory system and a GHG inventory unit responsible for the compilation of data;

(b) Unavailability of end-use consumption data for different sectors and categories, which needs to be generated on the basis of other scientific and consumption parameters;

(c) Inconsistencies in data collected from different sources;

(d) A lack of permanent and qualified personnel to prepare sectoral inventories;

(e) Unavailability of an integrated information technology system for housing, storing and retrieving data;

(f) Scarce capacity to measure and quantify GHG mitigation programmes and projects at the local and regional levels;

(g) Insufficient quality assurance and quality control procedures.

32. Some of the recommendations for future improvement in this area are:

(a) Developing local and subnational inventories and specific emission factors;

(b) Establishing a national reporting system for GHG emissions by specific sectors;

(c) Developing a forestry inventory to attain greater precision in the estimates of GHG emissions from land use, land-use change and forestry.

33. A group of Annex I Parties reported on the support provided to developing countries through the World Resources Institute GHG Protocol standards, an initiative aiming at facilitating the establishment of robust accounting and reporting for GHG mitigation actions and programmes.

6. Vulnerability and adaptation assessment

34. Several non-Annex I Parties reported good progress in this area mainly thanks to technology transfer cooperation to improve vulnerability assessments. The development of national adaptation programmes of action played a pivotal role in addressing urgent assessment needs at the national level. Training and participatory planning to conduct land use and water resources assessments fostered sustainable land and water management practices. Such initiatives contributed to generating higher awareness of climate change issues in communities living in areas affected by extreme weather variability.

35. Barriers to the implementation of vulnerability and adaptation assessments identified by many non-Annex I Parties include:

(a) Poor coordination between central governments and subnational authorities;

(b) Shortage of qualified and trained personnel, especially in monitoring and data-processing technologies;

(c) Outdated climate and impact models hampering the work on key risks and impacts. Training is also needed to develop, update and downscale climate change scenarios as the basis for assessment of climate change impacts.

36. Several Annex I Parties reported having supported training on vulnerability assessments and human security in relation to extreme climate events.

7. Capacity-building for implementation of adaptation measures

37. All non-Annex I Parties reported in their submitted NCs on efforts to build the capacity at the institutional, systemic and individual levels to implement adaptation measures. Many of these Parties emphasized the benefits gained through bilateral and multilateral cooperation in this area. Training programmes, including training of trainers, were conducted to enhance the professional expertise required for the integration of climate-resilient development concepts into national and municipal strategies and plans. One Party highlighted the value of building on indigenous knowledge to design adaptation actions, taking into account the local knowledge of elders, religious leaders and individuals with different roles, including gender, within the communities.

38. The need to integrate climate change adaptation into strategic planning oriented towards sustainable development and poverty reduction was one of the most frequent recommendations provided by non-Annex I Parties in their reports. Other recommendations included:

(a) Strengthening the capacity of national and local institutions in managing climate risks through the development of appropriate regulatory frameworks and effective climate information systems;

(b) Developing and diffusing adaptation technologies and innovations;

(c) Enhancing the communication on climate risk management and effective adaptation strategies among researchers, producers and policymakers.

39. Some Annex I Parties reported on capacity-building support provided to developing countries to implement measures to introduce climate-smart agriculture, improve natural resource management, enhance disaster risk reduction and preparedness, and ensure food security.

8. Assessment for implementation of mitigation options

40. The majority of non-Annex I Parties provided information on the institutional arrangements in place and efforts undertaken by governmental agencies to design and implement mitigation policies and measures, including nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), in several sectors.

41. Nevertheless, developing and implementing NAMAs was a challenge for some non-Annex I Parties, which ascribed the limited utilization of environmentally sound technologies to weak institutional arrangements and inadequate national and sectoral policies. The absence of MRV procedures and a system to track co-benefits in the wider context of sustainable development also impeded the development of NAMAs in some non-Annex I Parties. While some non-Annex I Parties were working on the development, establishment and implementation of NAMA MRV systems, other non-Annex I Parties counted on assistance from bilateral and multilateral agencies to build capacity for the creation of an MRV system for domestically supported NAMAs. Training in systems analysis and computer simulation modelling; building institutional, administrative and regulatory frameworks; and establishing other mechanisms for information collection, monitoring and sharing were among capacity-building needs reported by several non-Annex I Parties.

42. Annex I Parties reported having focused their support in this area on building the capacity of developing countries to:

(a) Strengthen institutional arrangements, including REDD-plus[13] governance;

(b) Enhance regulatory frameworks enabling legal reforms;

(c) Establish monitoring and reporting systems;

(d) Create incentives for private sector investments in green economic development. Annex I Parties also mentioned their support to developing countries in the preparation of INDCs.

9. Research and systematic observation, including meteorological, hydrological and climatological services

43. Very few non-Annex I Parties reported on this priority area. Meteorology departments providing services related to research and systematic observation in non-Annex I Parties were faced with the challenge of finding high-quality historic and real time quality data, information, and products. One non-Annex I Party reported on its participation in a research programme on predicting future climate scenarios and their impact on people and ecosystems. Such scenarios had to be taken into consideration in the formulation of national development plans.

44. While the lack of skilled manpower was identified as one of the main capacity gaps in this area, filling this gap through specialized training in conducting research and applying modern technology for meteorological forecasts, warnings and observations was often a problem due to scarce financial resources. One non-Annex I Party mentioned the need to develop a national research programme on climate change, while another non-Annex I Party observed that the limited availability of climatological data was the result of the closure of many national weather stations.

45. A few Annex I Parties reported on their efforts to strengthen cooperation between their national institutions, universities and agencies engaged in research projects on climate change related topics and respective academic institutions in developing countries.

10. Development and transfer of technology

46. Some non-Annex I Parties provided information on the institutional arrangements in place for overseeing the acquisition, promotion and development of clean technologies at the national level. The appointment of NDEs and the training provided to their staff represented an important step for these Parties in ensuring access to support offered by the CTCN in fostering climate technology transfer. Several programmes were established to provide incentives to producers and developers of environmentally sound technologies and to strengthen the competitiveness of industries through the adoption of cleaner production technologies.

47. Enhanced support to accelerate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies for both adaptation and mitigation was requested by the majority of non-Annex I Parties. Attention was drawn to the need for more training activities on available environmentally sound technologies and their benefits. The promotion of public–private partnerships in developing and using new climate-friendly technologies was one of the recommendations made in the national reports. Barriers to technology development and transfer identified by

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[13] In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

non-Annex I Parties included the lack of mechanisms and policies to encourage investments in clean technologies and the absence of provisions to retain technical expertise within ministries.

48. Nearly all Annex I Parties reported on initiatives and programmes undertaken bilaterally or multilaterally to build the capacity required for technology transfer to, and among, developing countries. Their support was centred on improving the technological expertise and regulatory frameworks of recipient countries so as to enhance the deployment of clean energy technologies and promote near- and long-term global economic and social stability. Some Annex I Parties also highlighted their role as information and technology providers which enable interactions with financial institutions and technology networks.

11. Improved decision-making, including assistance for participation in international negotiations

49. Very few non-Annex I Parties reported on actions taken to improve decision-making, as it was generally covered under bilateral cooperation programmes in other climate change related areas.

50. On the other hand, many non-Annex I Parties underscored the need to enhance the knowledge of policymakers on climate change and related cross-cutting issues, which were at the top of the agenda in developing countries, such as poverty, food security, health and extreme weather events. An enhanced awareness of climate change issues would bring about better coordination of policies and strategies. One non-Annex I Party noted that governmental institutions should take steps to translate the outcomes of intergovernmental climate change negotiations into targeted national strategies on climate change.

51. One Annex I Party reported on initiatives undertaken to empower decision makers from developing countries to stay up-to-date on the information and tools required to improve the policy environment for the promotion of clean energy. Another Annex I Party reported on training organized to strengthen the capacity of climate change negotiators from developing countries on specific agenda items discussed within the UNFCCC negotiations.

12. Clean development mechanism

52. Several non-Annex I Parties reported that they considered the CDM as an opportunity to contribute to climate change mitigation and benefit from clean technologies. Information was provided on the capacity built to establish institutional arrangements, including the appointment of DNAs; create an enabling environment; and train local experts with a view to promoting CDM project activities and raising awareness of CDM benefits. National CDM policy guidelines were prepared to help administer, manage, facilitate and control national CDM processes. Capacity-building initiatives undertaken under the United Nations Development Programme Low Emission Capacity Building Programme facilitated the implementation of CDM project activities, particularly in Africa. One non-Annex I Party planned to develop a coordinated policy approach for mitigation that integrates CDM project activities, NAMAs, MRV, low emission development strategies and INDCs. A project strengthening the capacity of institutions and stakeholders to implement CDM programmes of activities (PoAs) and post-2012 carbon market mechanisms, including the reformed CDM, was launched in the Pacific region.

53. Some non-Annex I Parties continued to stress the need to increase decision makers' awareness of the financial and environmental benefits of the CDM. Some of these Parties noted that capacity-building for technology development and transfer in the CDM context was more successful when a subsidiary of a company from a developed country was involved.

54. Several Annex I Parties reported having organized training courses for developing countries focusing on CDM project development, including methodological and legal aspects. Furthermore, one Annex I Party mentioned a successful bilateral cooperation initiative to promote bioenergy through CDM project activities.

13. Needs arising out of the implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention

55. Many of the least developed countries (LDCs) reported on their active involvement in a considerable number of sustainable development programmes with climate change related components being implemented by the international community. Several of the LDCs reported having institutional and regulatory frameworks in place to enable the implementation of climate change related activities at the national and local levels. Non-State actors, including national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and research and educational institutions played a crucial role in enhancing public awareness on the importance of the planning and implementation of adaptation actions. Another example of a reported multi-stakeholder initiative was the organization of training on climate-related disaster prevention measures, including self-monitoring of early warning systems at the community and neighbourhood levels.

56. Many of the LDCs noted that submitted national reports were a means to communicate their capacity needs with regard to the implementation of both adaptation and mitigation measures. Such needs included, for example, building national capacity to develop country-specific emission factors for GHG inventories and for measurement and quantification of GHG mitigation programmes and projects. One of the LDCs underlined that a single development agency could not provide comprehensive support, therefore concerted efforts by all stakeholders would be necessary to make progress in implementing climate change actions. To this end, capacity development targeting professional staff and local community members should be continuously assessed and improved. The same Party identified a three pillar model based on skills and knowledge, systems and processes, attitudes and behaviours, to use as a starting point to prepare a comprehensive institutional capacity development plan, which would be periodically reviewed and revised based on lessons learned.

57. The majority of the LDCs benefitted from South–South cooperation initiatives in terms of exchange of experiences, training courses and workshops on climate change related issues. Singapore and the Republic of Korea were among the leading non-Annex I Parties offering technical assistance and capacity-building programmes to the LDCs and other developing countries, particularly in Africa and South-East Asia.

58. Most Annex I Parties underlined in their national reports their commitment to provide capacity-building support to the LDCs either through bilateral cooperation or in partnership with relevant organizations. Capacity-building in the LDCs to promote sustainable land management and address desertification and land degradation was at the top of the agenda of many Annex I Parties, together with enabling activities relating to biodiversity conservation, soil quality, and food and water security.

14. Education, training and public awareness

59. The tendency among non-Annex I Parties to increase the amount of information on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention in national reports continued in 2014, thus highlighting the importance that Parties attach to education, training, public awareness, public access to information and public participation in climate change decision-making and action. Many non-Annex I Parties reported on their efforts to build national educational, scientific and technical capacity at all levels and on enhanced cooperation on

education, training and public awareness between government institutions and other stakeholders, namely NGOs and the private sector.

60. As regards to formal education programmes, one non-Annex I Party reported the involvement of the United Nations Children's Fund in developing school curricula with a focus on environmental topics. Some non-Annex I Parties reported that teachers required access to knowledge products including teaching manuals and environmental education materials. One Party reported having integrated elements of disaster preparedness and management in schools' programmes to enable children to better cope with the consequences of extreme climatic events and protect their lives. Non-formal education conducted through training courses, seminars and workshops was focused mainly on issues relating to land conservation, reforestation, fire protection and biodiversity conservation.

61. Some non-Annex I Parties observed that the concept of climate change education for sustainable development was still relatively new, which explained the considerable lack of awareness of the interrelated nature of all human activities and the environment. Despite the introduction in some countries of environmental education at the primary, secondary and university levels, there was still a need to refine and enhance the content of the information and communication messages and materials for the public. These Parties were aware of the need to increase public sensitivity to environmental and developmental problems. This would help to foster a sense of personal environmental responsibility and a greater commitment towards sustainable development policies and actions. Where possible, public awareness activities were conducted using a combination of the media and communication materials tailored to a target audience. However, the implementation of ad hoc awareness-raising initiatives was impeded by the lack of human and financial resources.

62. Non-Annex I Parties recognized the crucial role of NGOs and international development agencies in supporting the implementation of Article 6 related activities, including language courses to improve staff capacity to communicate with their international counterparts.

63. Several Annex I Parties highlighted initiatives and cooperation programmes aimed at promoting the training of experts and policymakers in developing countries. Such initiatives included one-to-one training, online learning modules and long-distance courses with the involvement of universities and research institutions. One Annex I Party reported on the organization of a lecture series on climate change governance delivered by internationally renowned experts from the academic and policy areas targeting the public at large in developing countries.

15. Information and networking, including the establishment of databases

64. Many non-Annex I Parties increased their efforts in the production of resource materials in order to enhance the dissemination of climate change related information and improve networking at the national, subnational and community levels. In several countries, the creation of centralized data and information sharing centres, especially in the area of meteorology, also contributed to enhancing knowledge on specific aspects of climate change.

65. Some non-Annex I Parties advocated the need to support this area through the provision of adequate financial resources for research and training in order to build institutional and administrative capacity at all levels, including technical and legislative aspects and mechanisms for information collection, monitoring and sharing.

66. Annex I Parties mentioned their support to the Ibero-American Network of Climate Change Offices initiative, which aims to promote dialogue and exchange of experiences and information on climate change policies, activities and projects among the Ibero-

American countries, identifying needs and priorities for adaptation and mitigation. Another initiative reported by Annex I Parties is the Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Change Action in Latin America and the Caribbean, which aims to strengthen capacity and knowledge-sharing on climate change technologies and experiences for adaptation and mitigation in the region.

II. Summary of issues raised in submissions from Parties

67. The issues relating to the implementation of the capacity-building framework raised in the submissions of three groups of Parties (referred to in para. 5 above) are summarized in paragraphs 68–71 below.

68. A group of Parties considered that:

(a) The scope of capacity-building needs, as contained in the capacity-building framework, remains relevant;

(b) Capacity-building is foundational and Parties have to acquire capacity before they can mitigate, adapt, develop and implement economically and financially viable projects, and develop, deploy, transfer and apply environmentally sound technologies;

(c) Since 1992, capacity-building support has been delivered on an ad hoc basis and tied to specific projects with a time-bound component, without creating a sustainable long-term structure;

(d) Meetings of the Durban Forum on capacity-building confirm that capacity-building remains an issue for developing countries;

(e) The treatment of capacity-building as a cross-cutting issue is flawed;

(f) While ad hoc capacity-building activities are conducted by bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and by bilateral and multilateral agencies, these activities are not monitored, measured and verified globally. This is owing to the lack of an internationally agreed baseline as well as targets and indicators to use in measuring capacity-building progress and to the absence of a dedicated body responsible for the oversight of capacity-building activities.

69. To address the concerns listed in paragraph 68 above, this group of Parties recommended the establishment of a capacity-building coordination committee to coordinate the implementation of the capacity-building framework pursuant to decisions 2/CP.7, 2/CP.10 and 29/CMP 1. Such a committee would lead the comprehensive review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework, the organization of meetings of the Durban Forum on capacity-building, and the MRV of capacity-building activities conducted nationally and internationally.

70. Another group of Parties stated that:

(a) It supports efforts to enhance capacities to address climate change in the broader context of sustainable development in developing countries across all regions and sectors of the economy and at the regional, national and subnational levels;

(b) Capacity-building is fundamental to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention. It is by nature a cross-cutting issue, therefore a strong capacity-building element should be a substantial and integral part of all development activities, including those that aim to enhance mitigation and adaptation actions and facilitate access to support in developing countries;

(c) Capacity-building is not based on a global top-down approach, but builds on a bottom-up approach taking into account each country's situation and linking capacity-building to context-specific needs and challenges;

(d) Financial and technical support aimed at building capacities is provided through various channels, including bilateral, multilateral and private sector cooperation, and combined with relevant qualitative and quantitative methods for monitoring its impact, when appropriate;

(e) The Convention and its Kyoto Protocol have an appropriate arrangement to deal with and guide capacity-building issues. The capacity-building framework with its rolling review system and annual submissions on its implementation form the cornerstones of Parties' capacity-building activities and guide the work of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention. Capacity-building is a standing agenda item under the COP, the CMP and the SBI, providing possibilities for annual guidance on capacity-building activities. The Durban Forum on capacity-building provides a space for annual in-depth discussions on capacity-building by sharing experiences and exchanging ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of capacity-building activities;

(f) Several bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol provide capacity-building support to developing countries. The effectiveness of capacity-building can be enhanced through the collaboration and coordination of these bodies.

71. A group of Parties regarded capacity-building as a key component of the means of implementation in developing countries and a prerequisite for the implementation of the Convention. The group emphasized that the effectiveness of any adaptation and mitigation efforts by developing countries is a function of the level of capacity of Parties and stressed the need for adequate support for capacity-building.

III. Capacity-building activities under the Kyoto Protocol

72. The CDM Executive Board, in its role as the regulatory body of the CDM, continued in 2014 to undertake measures and initiatives to promote and enhance the regional and subregional distribution of CDM project activities.

73. The Board continued providing assistance to DNAs through help desks, regional training events, DNA Forum meetings, regional workshops, monitoring of sustainable development benefits from CDM project activities and PoAs, and development of guidelines for local stakeholder consultations.

74. CDM project development support was mostly led by the regional collaboration centres (RCCs), established in 2013 by the secretariat to operate in partnership with local and regional agencies and multilateral development banks. The RCCs were designated to support existing projects, actualize the CDM project cycle under PoAs, develop standardized baselines together with a pipeline of future projects, and broaden knowledge related to the CDM. The four established centres[14] provided direct support to project participants involved in hundreds of existing project activities, resulting in some of these activities moving forward in the project cycle. The centres were also active in identifying new project activities, some of which moved through the CDM pipeline as a result of follow-up actions. Furthermore, the presence of the RCCs on the ground helped to catalyse action by several international and regional agencies. Several partnerships and

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[14] RCCs have been established in Lomé, Togo, in collaboration with the Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement; Kampala, Uganda, in collaboration with the East African Development Bank; St. George's, Grenada, in collaboration with the Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation; and Bogota, Colombia, in collaboration with the Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina.

collaboration schemes were established with the effect of strengthening the impact of all agencies on the ground, facilitating interaction with local governments, monitoring results and allowing for follow-up.

75. In the context of the Nairobi Framework Partnership,[15] launched in December 2006 by the then United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, to spread the benefits of the CDM, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, efforts were focused in 2014 on capacity-building for a range of stakeholders and support for project development. Project development support was led by the secretariat's RCCs with contributions from partner organizations, including the Asian Development Bank, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme/Technical University of Denmark Partnership.[16] Capacity-building activities covered DNAs, coordinating and managing entities of PoAs, project developers and other stakeholders, through in-person workshops and events. Distance learning through webinars and e-courses also had a high profile during this period. Assistance in developing PoAs and standardized baselines was the main area of support.

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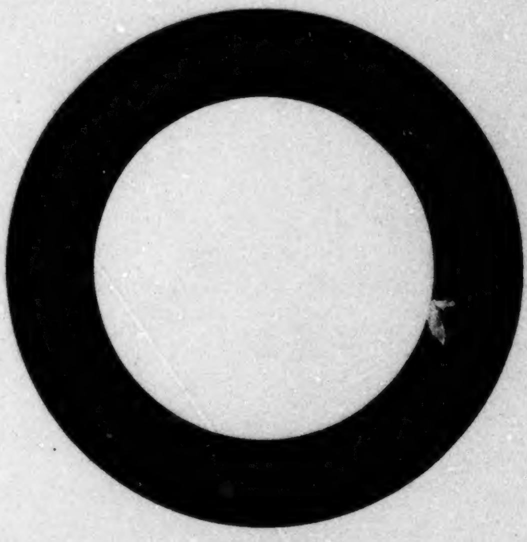
[15] See <https://cdm.unfccc.int/about/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

[16] Formerly the United Nations Environment Programme Risoe Centre.



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Item 9(a) and (b) of the provisional agenda
Capacity-building
Capacity-building under the Convention
Capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol

Synthesis report on the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries

Note by the secretariat*

Addendum

Capacity-building activities of United Nations organizations and other institutions

1. This addendum to the synthesis report on the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries has been prepared to further support the Subsidiary Body for Implementation in its annual monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries (hereinafter referred to as the capacity-building framework), in accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1.

2. The Conference of the Parties (COP), in paragraph 9(b) of decision 2/CP.7 and paragraph 33(b) of the annex to the same decision, requested the secretariat to collect, process, compile and disseminate, in both printed and electronic formats, the information needed by the COP or its subsidiary bodies to review the progress in the implementation of the capacity-building framework.

3. Such information has been submitted by 16 United Nations organizations and 3 other institutions. It refers to activities undertaken in 2014 to build institutional, systemic

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* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the delayed submission of information by United Nations organizations and other institutions.

and individual capacity. This information,[1] available on the UNFCCC website,[2] is presented according to the scope of needs and priority areas outlined in the capacity-building framework.[3] The figure shows the distribution of capacity-building activities by priority area.

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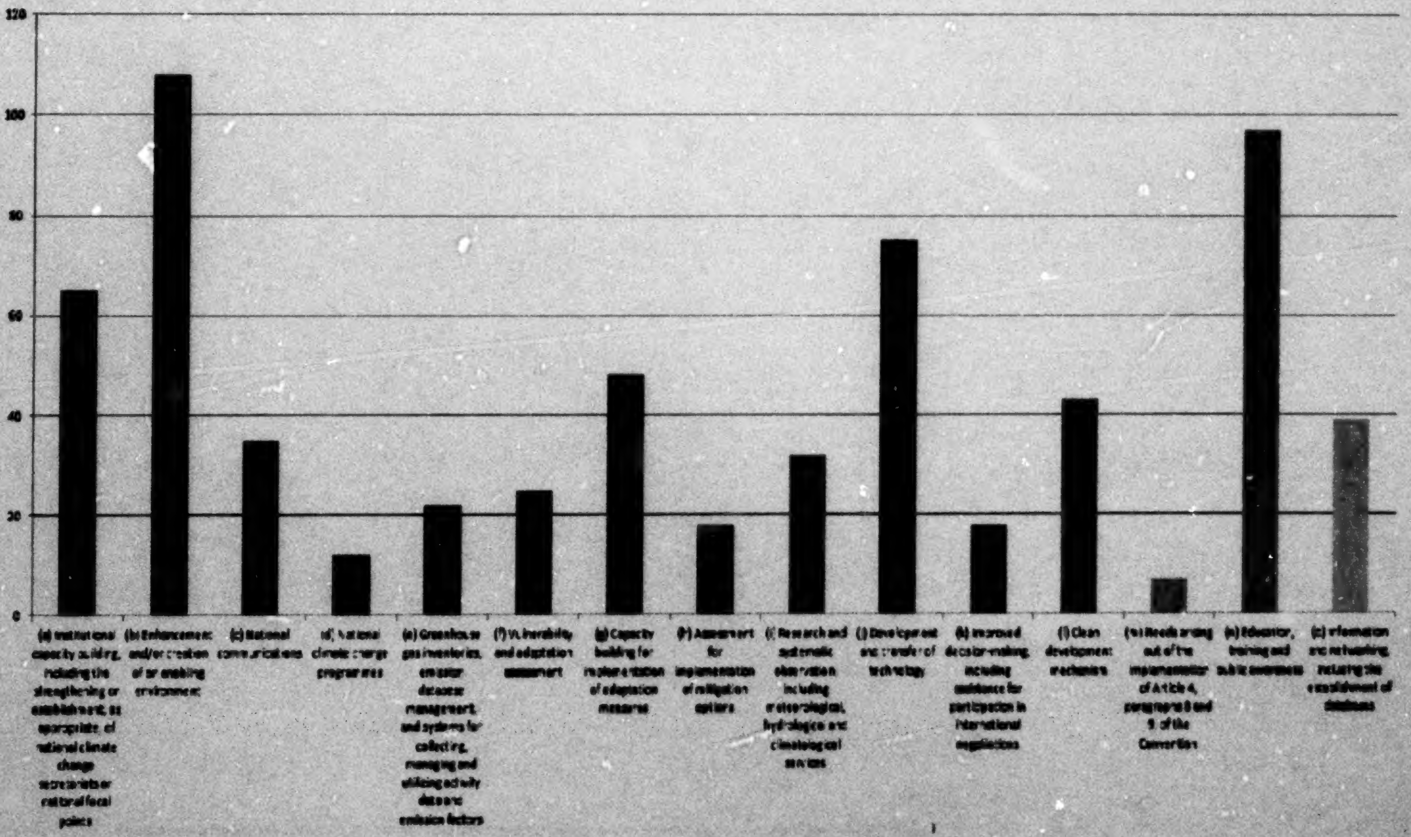
[1] The information may not convey the complete picture of the support provided, as there may be gaps in areas where information on activities was unavailable.

[2] <http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/application/pdf/capacity-building_activities_undertaken_by_un_and_other_institutions_in_2014.pdf>.

[3] Decision 2/CP.7, annex, paragraph 15.

Distribution by priority area of capacity-building activities reported by United Nations organizations and other institutions for 2014



United Nations

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Item 5(b) of the provisional agenda
Matters relating to the mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol
Review of the joint implementation guidelines

Recommendations of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee on the review of the joint implementation guidelines

Summary

This document presents the recommendations of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee on the review of the joint implementation guidelines for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-second session. It was prepared in accordance with the request from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its tenth session.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. At its tenth session, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) requested the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC) to provide recommendations on the review of the guidelines for the implementation of Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol (hereinafter referred to as the JI guidelines) for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its forty-second session.[1]

B. Scope of the note

2. This note contains the recommendations of the JISC on the review of the JI guidelines in response to the request of the CMP.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

3. The SBI may wish to consider the recommendations of the JISC when making recommendations to the CMP on the possible revision of the JI guidelines.

II. Recommendations to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

A. Joint implementation in the future climate regime

4. The review of the JI guidelines was mandated at CMP 1[2] in order to build on the experiences gained and lessons learned from the operation of the mechanism during the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (2008–2012) and at the start of the second commitment period (2013–2020). The current status and timelines indicate that the revised JI guidelines will not be operational before the second half of the second commitment period owing to the need to finalize negotiations on this issue and to manage the transition from one set of guidelines to the other.

5. Furthermore, it is likely that joint implementation (JI) will suffer from prolonged low demand in the period up to 2020 given the prevailing levels of mitigation ambition. The state of progress in the ratification of the second commitment period and the current inability to issue emission reduction units (ERUs) for this period also present significant threats to the continued operation of the mechanism.

6. At the same time, the work that Parties are conducting under the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) on the 2015 agreement indicates that different commitment structures and mechanisms will become relevant in 2020 and will be accompanied by changes to rules for measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), and for the accounting of progress on commitments.

7. It is expected that, over time, more Parties will take on quantitative emission limits, although these may often be sector-based as well as economy-wide. This is of particular

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[1] Decision 5/CMP.10, paragraph 8.

[2] Decision 9/CMP.1, paragraph 8.

relevance for JI, as it is a mechanism that provides for the crediting of activities in sectors or economies that are subject to quantitative emission limits (environments with "capped" emissions). However, the long-term perspective of JI will require it to be integrated into the MRV and accounting systems that will be developed for the 2015 agreement.

8. It is therefore recommended that, in continuing their review of the JI guidelines, Parties consider them in the light of the emerging picture of post-2020 mechanisms, currently discussed under the ADP. The growing number of Parties that could make use of a mechanism such as JI, and the developments in MRV and accounting rules are of particular relevance.

9. It is further recommended that Parties take note of the considerable investment that has been made by the JISC and by Parties, as reflected in the current draft text of the "Modalities and procedures for the implementation of Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol"[3] (hereinafter referred to as the draft JI modalities and procedures). This draft builds on years of experience in the implementation of JI and provides for an enhanced mechanism with greater transparency and international oversight. Should Parties consider that a crediting mechanism for Parties that take on quantitative emission limits is to form a part of the post-2020 architecture, this investment and experience should be utilized to the fullest, and the review of the JI guidelines can provide a blueprint for this.

B. Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee conformity assessment process

10. One of the proposed functions of the JISC is the assessment of the conformity of host Parties with the modalities and procedures adopted by the CMP and the minimum requirements and procedures set by the JISC.[4] Parties would be required to rectify any identified non-conformities and provide evidence of such rectification to the JISC.[5]

11. Further provisions would be needed with regard to any consequences of identified or unaddressed non-conformities. The environmental integrity of JI would necessitate that a continuing failure to rectify identified non-conformities trigger a consequence sufficient to incentivize compliance, such as suspending a Party's ability to submit a notice of acceptance of the verification of emission reductions and removals.

12. It is therefore recommended that the following provisions be added to the draft JI modalities and procedures:

(a) Amendment to the beginning of paragraph 56: "Except where non-conformities raised pursuant to paragraph 13(e) above have not been rectified in accordance with paragraph 36 above, the JISC shall …";

(b) Additional paragraph 13 bis: "The JISC shall elaborate its procedures for the implementation of paragraph 13(e) above for consideration by the CMP, and shall subsequently recommend to the CMP revisions to such rules as needed".

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[3] As contained in the appendix to the annex to FCCC/SBI/2014/L.34.

[4] FCCC/SBI/2014/L.34, annex, appendix, paragraph 13(e).

[5] FCCC/SBI/2014/L.34, annex, appendix, paragraph 36.

C. Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee review processes

13. A further proposed function of the JISC under the draft JI modalities and procedures is to review the registration of JI activities and the issuance of ERUs by host Parties.[6] The current text suggests that reviews should be conducted on a random basis. Such random selection in auditing is generally used where there is a low risk of error, the error has a low impact and all activities have a similar chance of error. It may be argued that this method is insufficiently robust to support the international oversight role of the JISC. It would be necessary to clearly state the consequences of a review that identifies problems.

14. It is therefore recommended that paragraph 13(f) of the draft JI modalities and procedures be amended as follows:

> "Undertaking reviews of JI activities in accordance with paragraphs 48 and 56 below and, where appropriate, postponing or declining to record them as registered JI activities or endorse the issuance of ERUs for them".

D. Convergence of common functions

15. The draft modalities and procedures include references to synergy between JI and the clean development mechanism (CDM): in paragraph 8, on minimum technical requirements, and in paragraph 40, on the accreditation of entities for validating activities and verifying emission reductions. These paragraphs point to technical work that is of the same nature and is needed by both mechanisms. Both the CDM and JI have technical panels working on the accreditation of third-party entities. While JI does not have a methodological panel, it uses methodologies developed by the CDM methodological panels and working groups.

16. The reference to minimum technical requirements refers to standards and procedures that define the nature of crediting activities and MRV rules for estimating emission reductions and removals. Technically, the issues and challenges associated with these requirements are the same for both mechanisms and independent of which mechanism the activities are registered under. The mechanisms stand to benefit from combining resources in undertaking this work as it would allow participants in the mechanisms to work within the same or similar requirements for their activities under both mechanisms and across all the regions in which they are active.

17. In the case of accreditation, synergy and alignment between the mechanisms could be expected to improve the quality and efficiency of their operation and reduce transaction costs for validators and verifiers being accredited.[7] It would provide for the consistent use of best practices, a consistent approach to identical issues and standards, and significant cost savings for the regulatory bodies, the secretariat, project participants and other stakeholders.

18. While the examples considered in the current draft modalities and procedures concern JI and the CDM, in the longer term, it would be worthwhile to consider synergy in the context of mechanisms under the 2015 agreement.

19. It is therefore recommended that Parties consider ways to encourage and build on synergy between JI and the CDM as well as with other mechanisms that may become relevant under the 2015 agreement.

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[6] FCCC/SBI/2014/L.34, annex, appendix, paragraph 13(*f*) – this could also potentially extend to reviews of any post-registration changes to a JI activity; see also paragraph 49.

[7] FCCC/SBI/2014/5.

E. Crediting periods

20. A number of issues relating to crediting periods remain open in the draft JI modalities and procedures. The period over which a JI activity can generate credits is a fundamental determinant of the financial viability of an activity. Longer crediting periods will tend to increase financial viability but provide less confidence that the emission reductions will remain real and additional in the long term. Shorter crediting periods with options for renewal allow for more frequent reassessment of the baseline and potentially additionality, thus increasing the certainty that emission reductions are real and additional while reducing certainty about the volume of ERUs issued over the life of a JI activity and increasing the transaction costs associated with that activity.

21. The current draft modalities and procedures link crediting periods to the commitment period of the underlying agreement. Such timing is very arbitrary for participants in JI activities and bears no relation to the period needed for financial viability or environmental integrity. As such, there is merit in setting the crediting period to the appropriate length for the JI activity while making it clear that issuance can only occur when the host Party has established a quantified emission limit for the relevant period. This would allow JI activities to be implemented for the long term in the context of governments undertaking to take on long-term quantitative commitments.

22. The draft modalities and procedures currently allow participants in a JI activity to choose the length of their crediting period, up to a maximum number of years. It would be beneficial to include an assessment of the appropriate length of the crediting period within the minimum technical requirements set for JI. A number of factors would be relevant in this assessment, such as technology, activity type and scale, barriers, lifetime of equipment and country context.

23. It is therefore recommended that the following amendments be made to the draft JI modalities and procedures:

(a) Additional paragraph 10(a) bis: "Ensure that the length of crediting periods, and renewals thereof, are appropriate for the JI activity";

(b) Deletion of elements in paragraph 43 referring to the expiry of the commitment period.

F. Scope of appeals

24. The draft JI modalities and procedures stipulate that any decision taken by the JISC may be subject to appeal by affected stakeholders. Such an appeal is to be conducted in accordance with provisions to be agreed by the CMP.

25. The term "any decision" is very broad and could be interpreted to include decisions of a procedural or intermediate nature. In order to prevent the appeal process from becoming overly complex and a burden on procedural decisions, it would be beneficial to only allow appeals of decisions of a final nature that impact directly on stakeholders or Parties. In particular, this would include final decisions on an activity, accreditation of independent entities and conformity assessments.

26. It is therefore recommended that the following amendment be made to paragraph 59 of the draft JI modalities and procedures:

> "A final decision on an activity, accreditation of independent entities or conformity assessments undertaken by the JISC in accordance with these modalities and

procedures may be subject to appeal by affected stakeholders, pursuant to provisions to be agreed by the CMP".

United Nations FCCC/SBI/2015/6

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda
Matters relating to the least developed countries

Synthesis report on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

This document has been prepared as a contribution to discussions on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG). It draws on views submitted by Parties and the outcomes of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, which took place from 9 to 11 March 2015, as presented in the report on the meeting. The synthesis report has also benefited from inputs provided by the LEG through the reports on its meetings, in particular the 26th and 27th meetings, and other relevant documents. Based on all the above-mentioned inputs, this document synthesizes possible elements for a future mandate of the LEG, including broadening the areas of support provided by the LEG and revising the composition and the length of the mandate of the group to address emerging needs for support.

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* This document was submitted after the due date in order to take into account relevant inputs.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. At its sixteenth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to review, at COP 21, the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and to adopt a decision thereon.[1] It decided on the following actions to initiate the review:

(a) To request the LEG to convene a meeting, including Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its agencies, and other relevant organizations, with the assistance of the secretariat, to take stock of its work, before June 2015;

(b) To request the secretariat to prepare a report on the stocktaking meeting for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its forty-second session, as input to the review;

(c) To invite Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 1 February 2015, their views on the work of the LEG, for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration at SBI 42;

(d) To request the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG, based on the submissions from Parties, reports of the LEG, the report on the stocktaking meeting and other relevant information, for consideration at SBI 42.

B. Scope of the report

2. This report synthesizes the following information: the submissions from Parties referred to in paragraph 1(c) above,[2] containing the views of one Party[3] and two groups of Parties;[4] the inputs provided by the LEG at its 27th meeting[5] and previous meetings;[6] and the report on the stocktaking meeting referred to in paragraph 1(b) above, which took place from 9 to 11 March 2015 in Bangkok,[7] Thailand. The synthesis report highlights the experiences of Parties with regard to the support provided by the LEG for the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), the other elements of the work programme of the least developed countries (LDCs) and the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs). It also highlights the possible roles that the LEG could play under a future mandate.

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[1] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 9.

[2] Contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/MISC.2.

[3] Nepal.

[4] The submissions from the two group of Parties are as follows: Latvia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its 28 member States, with the submission being supported by a further 5 Parties; and Angola on behalf of the least developed countries, representing the views of 48 Parties.

[5] FCCC/SBI/2015/7.

[6] Available at <unfccc.int/6099>.

[7] FCCC/SBI/2015/8.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

3. The SBI may wish to consider the information contained in this document when making recommendations to the COP on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG.

II. Background

4. Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention acknowledges the specific needs and special situations of LDCs. The implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention was initiated at COP 3.[8] Following this, and the progress made at subsequent sessions, a package of decisions was adopted at COP 7 to support the LDCs,[9] including the establishment of the LDC work programme (the NAPAs and the other five elements of the programme), the establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the establishment and mandate of the LEG.

5. The mandate of the LEG was extended at COP 16 for a period of five years (2011–2015).[10] In total, the LEG has served five mandated terms (2002–2003; 2004–2005; 2006–2007; 2008–2010; and 2011–2015). More information about each of these terms can be found in reports to the SBI on the LEG meetings covering these periods.[11]

6. The current mandates of the LEG (based on decisions 29/CP.7, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 5/CP.14, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18 and 3/CP.20) are presented in annex I, and the key milestones in the work of the LEG and related support to the LDCs are highlighted in annex II.

7. In the current mandate of the LEG, its membership has been expanded from 12 to 13 members,[12] comprising 5 experts from African LDC Parties, 2 from Asian LDC Parties, 2 from small island developing States that are LDC Parties, 3 from Parties included in Annex II to the Convention, and 1 additional expert from an LDC Party.

8. The LEG meets twice a year to take stock of progress made in implementing its work programme. At its first meeting of the year, the LEG prepares a two-year rolling work programme, and also elects a Chair and a Vice-Chair, and three Rapporteurs (one anglophone, one francophone and one lusophone). The secretariat prepares a report on each LEG meeting to be presented to the SBI at the following session. In addition, the LEG Chair provides an oral report to the SBI at the opening plenary of each SBI session.

9. The support provided by the LEG includes the following:

(a) Developing guidelines and technical papers such as a step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs[13] and the technical guidelines for the NAP process,[14] available in multiple languages;[15]

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[8] Decision 3/CP.3, paragraph 1.

[9] Decisions 5/CP.7, 7/CP.7, 28/CP.7 and 29/CP.7.

[10] Decision 6/CP.16.

[11] The reports are available at <unfccc.int/7581>.

[12] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 4.

[13] <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/250%20E#beg>.

[14] *National Adaptation Plans: Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process*. Available at <http://unfccc.int/7279>.

[15] Both publications are available in English, French and Portuguese. The technical guidelines for the NAP process are also available in Spanish.

(b) Establishing thematic working groups and advisory groups composed of LEG members and other relevant stakeholders, including members of other bodies under the Convention, in particular the Adaptation Committee, relevant organizations and representatives of civil society. For example, a NAP technical working group is working on the development of a sample NAP process and on guidance to organizations which are developing supplements to the NAP technical guidelines. Similarly, an advisory group composed of LEG members, a member of the Adaptation Committee and a representative of the LDC group is working on the revision of the methodologies for collecting best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation, while another advisory group is guiding the development of NAP Central;

(c) Organizing regional training workshops to build national capacity on the objectives, characteristics and content of NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and how the NAPA and NAP guidelines can be used for the processes;[16]

(d) Organizing meetings in LDCs to facilitate direct engagement with and more tailored support to country teams working on NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Providing databases on adaptation, such as the NAPA priorities database, which presents the list of ranked priority adaptation activities and projects, and the LDCF/NAPA projects database, which provides updated information on the status of implementation of NAPA projects under the LDCF;[17]

(f) Compiling case studies on adaptation, such as the country profiles on best practices and lessons learned;[18]

(g) Developing NAP Central, a universally accessible, web-based central repository and hub for information pertinent to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. It is a platform that provides access to data, information and knowledge on adaptation to all relevant stakeholders that are developing adaptation plans;[19]

(h) Publishing outreach products[20] that provide information on adaptation in LDCs, such as *Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Addressing Adaptation in the Least Developed Countries* (volumes 1 and 2), available in English, French and Portuguese;

(i) Regularly organizing side events on the margins of the intergovernmental process as part of the outreach activities of the LEG;

(j) Engaging with other United Nations processes, including through collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and involvement in the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA);[21]

(k) Developing lists of frequently asked questions about LDCs, the LEG, NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(l) Collaborating with other bodies under the Convention such as the Adaptation Committee and the Technology Executive Committee;

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[16] <http:/unfccc.int/ 6101>.

[17] See <http://unfccc.int/ 6996>.

[18] See <http://unfccc.int/ 6491>.

[19] See < http://unfccc.int/nap>.

[20] See <http://unfccc.int/ /6110>.

[21] The IPoA charts out the international community's vision and strategy for the sustainable development of LDCs for the decade 2011–2020. See <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/istanbul-programme-of-action>.

(m) Collaborating with the GEF and its agencies and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat, including by inviting them to contribute to workshops and meetings;

(n) Collaborating with relevant organizations on various themes – for example, on consideration of gender issues;

(o) Promoting South–South cooperation by offering forums for LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs, including virtual ones for LDCs from different regions, to enable countries to meet, learn from one another and share their experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation.

III. Synthesis of views of Parties on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

10. The information presented below comes from submissions made by Parties to the secretariat containing their views on the work of, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG.

A. Views on the progress made by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

11. All Parties commended the LEG for the work it had done since its establishment, including during its current mandate. Parties considered the LEG to be instrumental in supporting LDCs in addressing adaptation to climate change and were of the view that the LEG had fulfilled its mandate. Some Parties also felt that the LEG had exceeded expectations by allowing countries to achieve significant progress in their adaptation work. They specifically mentioned the good work that the LEG had done in supporting LDCs for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and for the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

12. Most Parties highlighted some of the products and activities of the LEG that they had found particularly effective to support LDCs, including:

(a) The technical guidelines for the NAP process;

(b) Regional training workshops on NAPAs and NAPs;

(c) The LEG active collaboration with bodies under the Convention and other relevant organizations, including regional centres and networks;

(d) The provision of platforms for sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned and for fostering South–South cooperation. As an example, they referred to the series of publications on the collection and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs, the NAP Expos and NAP Central;

(e) The possibility for developing countries that are not LDCs to use some of the products of the LEG, in particular the technical guidelines for the NAP process.

13. In highlighting the support that they had received from the LEG, a group of Parties also noted how NAPAs had played an important role in informing the process to formulate and implement NAPs. They mentioned that NAPAs had contributed to raising the awareness of high-level officials, and their implementation had generated valuable experiences and lessons learned (LDCs).

B. Views on the need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

14. In sharing their views on the need for continuation of the LEG, several Parties took the opportunity to share their views on the membership of the LEG and the modalities it could employ to conduct its work under a future mandate.

15. Parties indicated that they were in full support of the continuation of the LEG and would therefore expect the renewal of its mandate at COP 21 (December 2015).

16. Some Parties would also favour an extension of the mandate to go beyond 2020, in alignment with the time when the GCF would be expected to reach USD 100 billion per year. These Parties stated that they would like the mandate of the LEG to be for more than five years but did not provide a specific time frame. A group of Parties proposed to discuss the possibility of a shorter mandate period with a similar review as envisaged for this year to ensure that the role of the LEG meets the needs of the new agreement.

17. Parties that voiced their support for continuation of the mandate of the LEG also proposed the following:

(a) A review and possible extension of the membership of the LEG;

(b) The exploration of renewed and strengthened forms of collaboration between the LEG and relevant organizations, including through the inclusion of representatives of some selected organizations in the LEG.

18. A group of Parties called for caution in order not to overburden the limited capacity of the LEG with additional tasks while at the same time seeing a need for enhanced coordination and cooperation both within the Convention – especially between the LEG, the Adaptation Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network - and organizations working on adaptation issues outside the Convention. Some Parties believed that exploring avenues for the enhancement of the composition of the LEG would be useful to allow the expert group to be fully capacitated to respond to the ever-evolving adaptation landscape under the Convention and to continue to adequately support the LDCs.

19. One Party mentioned that the LEG, in its future term, should continue to employ the modalities that it currently uses. The same Party suggested that the LEG could also seek to establish formal partnerships with other bodies and programmes under the Convention and with other relevant organizations outside the Convention, including, but not limited to, regional centres and networks.

20. In discussing the terms of reference of the LEG, a group of Parties identified the following issues for further discussions:

(a) Any duplication of work between the LEG and the Adaptation Committee;

(b) Enhanced cooperation and coordination between the LEG and other entities under the Convention;

(c) The needs of the LDCs that should be addressed specifically by the LEG;

(d) The appropriate time frame for a mandate that ensures that the role of the LEG meets the needs of the new agreement.

IV. Elements for a future mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

21. On the basis of the views of Parties in their submissions, the outcome of the stocktaking meeting and information contained in past reports of the LEG and summarized in chapter II above, the following new and additional elements could be part of a future mandate of the LEG:

(a) Provision of technical guidance and advice on the revision of the LDC work programme;

(b) Provision of technical guidance and advice on the full implementation of the LDC work programme;

(c) Provision of technical guidance and support for the identification of capacity gaps and needs for LDCs to effectively implement their NAPAs and the other elements of the LDC work programme;

(d) Provision of technical guidance and support for the identification of capacity gaps and needs for LDCs to effectively undertake the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Provision of capacity-building for national institutions and focal points to effectively spearhead the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(f) Provision of capacity-building for accessing funding for adaptation, including through the GCF, the GEF, the Adaptation Fund and other relevant sources of funding;

(g) Collaboration with the following entities to support the work of the LEG:

(i) Bodies under the Convention;

(ii) Multilateral financial institutions (e.g. GCF, GEF);

(iii) Other relevant multilateral and bilateral organizations;

(iv) Regional centres and networks;

(v) Scientific organizations and the academic community;

(vi) Civil society;

(h) Provision of technical support and advice for the promotion of South–South cooperation;

(i) Promotion of regional approaches, partnerships and synergy as a contribution to achieving national goals for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(j) Provision of technical advice and support to Parties and information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, NAPAs and the LDC work programme;

(k) Undertaking the monitoring and evaluation of support provided to LDCs through, inter alia, the collection of relevant data and information from LDCs;

(l) Provision of technical guidance and support for addressing the recommendations contained in the technology needs assessment reports;

(m) Development of standard methodologies on various aspects related to reducing vulnerability to climate change in LDCs;

(n) Provision of technical support and advice for the scaling up of considerations of gender and gender approaches and of vulnerable groups in adaptation planning and implementation as a way to enhance participation and effectiveness of adaptation efforts;

(o) Provision of technical support and advice for LDCs to access adaptation technologies;

(p) Provision of technical support and advice for the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into national development planning and implementation in order to achieve sustainable results;

(q) Provision of technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, to respond to specific needs they may have, including for strengthening linkages between science and policy;

(r) Provision of support and guidance to the documentation and communication of information on experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation and other climate-related efforts;

(s) Provision of technical support and advice for the consideration of transformational change in a changing climate in LDCs;

(t) Provision of technical support and advice to LDCs for the development and submission of intended nationally determined contributions;

(u) Provision of technical support and advice for the alignment of adaptation efforts with processes outside the Convention, including the sustainable development goals and the IPoA, through enhanced collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat.

Annex I

Current mandates of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

The current mandates of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group are as follows:

1. To provide technical guidance and advice on the preparation and on the implementation strategy of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), including the identification of possible sources of data and their subsequent application and interpretation, upon request by the least developed country (LDC) Parties (decision 29/CP.7)

2. To advise on capacity-building needs for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and to provide recommendations, as appropriate (decision 29/CP.7)

3. To develop a work programme that includes implementation of NAPAs (decision 4/CP.11)

4. To serve in an advisory capacity to the LDCs (decision 8/CP.13)

5. To assist, as appropriate, the remaining LDC Parties that have not submitted their NAPAs in completing and submitting their NAPAs as soon as possible (request to the Global Environment Facility in collaboration with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)) (decision 5/CP.14)

6. To provide technical guidance and advice on the revision and update of NAPAs to further improve their quality, to facilitate the integration of adaptation actions of LDCs into development planning and to reflect increased adaptation knowledge and changed priorities in the countries, upon request by LDCs (decision 6/CP.16)

7. To provide technical guidance and advice on the identification of medium- and long-term adaptation needs, their integration into development planning and the implementation of identified adaptation activities (decision 6/CP.16)

8. To provide technical guidance and advice on strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities within LDC Parties (decision 6/CP.16)

9. To provide technical guidance and advice on the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than the preparation and implementation of NAPAs that are relevant to the expertise of the LEG (decision 6/CP.16)

10. To provide technical guidance and support to the national adaptation plan (NAP) process, as appropriate (decision 5/CP.17)

11. To prioritize support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs in carrying out the LEG mandate to support the identification and implementation of medium- and long-term adaptation in the least developed countries (decision 5/CP.17)

12. To prepare technical guidelines for the NAP process, based on the initial guidelines included in the annex to decision 5/CP.17 (decision 5/CP.17)

13. To identify support needs for the process of formulation and implementation of NAPs (decision 5/CP.17)

14. To invite the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to contribute to the work of the LEG in support of the NAP process, and to report, as appropriate (decision 5/CP.17)

15. The LEG, the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to include information in their reports on how they have responded to the requests made in decision 5/CP.7 and on their activities relevant to the NAP process, as per their respective mandates, and to make recommendations accordingly (decision 5/CP.17)

16. Parties and relevant organizations to continue to assist the LDC Parties, drawing upon the work of, and where appropriate in consultation with, the LEG, in building national institutional arrangements and capacities, and to support scientific and technical capacity needs, as identified by the LDC Parties, for undertaking the NAP process (decision 12/CP.18)

17. To consider, with the Adaptation Committee and in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund, how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-second session (decision 3/CP.20)

Annex II

Key milestones in the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and related support to the least developed countries

Year	*Milestones*
2001	**Preceding the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP):** • Expert workshops to design the national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and prepare draft guidelines for NAPA preparation in Kampala, Uganda, in April and in Male, Maldives, in September
	COP 7 – Package of decisions to support the least developed countries (LDCs): • Special reference to LDCs in decision 2/CP.7, "Capacity-building in developing countries (non-Annex I Parties)" • Definition of the LDC work programme in decision 5/CP.7, "Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol)" • Establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) by decision 7/CP.7, "Funding under the Convention" • Decision 27/CP.7, "Guidance to an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the least developed countries fund" • Decision 28/CP.7, "Guidelines for the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action" • Decision 29/CP.7, "Establishment of a least developed countries expert group"
2002	**Global Environment Facility (GEF):** • Operational guidelines for funding for the preparation of NAPAs
	Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG): • Annotated guidelines for the preparation of NAPAs[a] • Global launch and capacity-building workshop for the preparation of NAPAs in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in September
	Decision 8/CP.8, "Guidance to an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund": • The GEF to support, where sufficient voluntary funding has not be provided from bilateral sources, the organization, under the guidance of the LEG, of four regional workshops in 2003

Year	*Milestones*
2003	**LEG:** • Four regional training workshops on NAPA preparation, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), held, respectively, in Apia, Samoa, for Pacific LDCs in March; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for anglophone African LDCs in June; Thimphu, Bhutan, for Asian LDCs in September; and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for francophone LDCs in October
	Decision 6/CP.9, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund": • The GEF to support the implementation of NAPAs as soon as possible after their completion
	Decision 7/CP.9, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group"
2004	**Decision 4/CP.10, "Work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":** • The LEG to prepare possible elements on the role of the group in support of the implementation of NAPAs and to include in its next report to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), in consultation with LDC Parties, information on potential technical and financial difficulties that LDC Parties may have in the implementation of NAPAs
	LEG: • Publication presenting a selection of examples and exercises drawn from the regional training workshops on NAPAs by UNITAR • Publication of the NAPA Primer, which provides an introduction to NAPAs
2005	**LEG:** • SBI technical paper on synthesis of available information for the preparation of NAPAs[b] • SBI technical paper on synergy among multilateral environmental agreements in the context of NAPAs[c] • SBI technical paper on regional synergy in the context of NAPAs[d] • SBI technical paper on elements for implementation strategies for NAPAs[e]
	Decision 3/CP.11, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund": • The full cost of funding is to be provided by the LDCF for activities to meet the additional costs to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change • In supporting NAPA implementation, the GEF is to develop a

Year	*Milestones*
	co-financing scale and develop flexible modalities that ensure balanced access to resources
	Decision 4/CP.11, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":
2006	**GEF:** • Programming paper for funding the implementation of NAPAs under the LDCF[f] **LEG:** • Creation of an online local coping database
2007	**LEG:** • Stocktaking meeting on NAPAs organized in Bangkok
	Decision 8/CP.13, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group"
2008	**Decision 5/CP.14, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":** • Assessment of the LDCF and request for the GEF to support the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
2009	**LEG:** • Publication of a step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs[g] • Technical paper on support needed to fully implement NAPAs[h] • Conduct of the first of five regional training workshops on implementing NAPAs, targeting anglophone African LDCs. The workshop took place in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in October • Paper on the overview of NAPA preparation, design of implementation strategies and submission of revised project lists and profiles[i] • Publication on the LDCs under the Convention[j] • Information paper on support needed to fully implement NAPAs[k]
2010	**LEG:** • The remaining four regional training workshops on implementing NAPAs, for, respectively, francophone LDCs in Bamako, Mali, in February; Asian LDCs in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, in August; lusophone LDCs in Sao Tome and Principe in September; and Pacific LDCs in Apia in November

Year	*Milestones*
	GEF: • Programming paper on accessing resources under the LDCF with a simplified project cycle[l] **Decision 1/CP.16, "The Cancun Agreements: Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention":** • Establishment under the Cancun Adaptation Framework of a process to enable LDC Parties, building upon their experience with the NAPAs, to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) and an invitation to other developing Parties to employ the modalities formulated to support those plans **Decision 5/CP.16, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":** • The SBI to review the experiences gained from the implementation of the LDC work programme, including those in accessing funds from the LDCF • Reiterated request for the GEF to support the implementation of the other elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs **Decision 6/CP.16, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":** • Renewal and expansion of the mandate of the LEG
2011	**LEG:** • LEG technical paper on the identification and implementation of medium- and long-term adaptation activities in LDCs[m] • Expert meeting on NAPs in September in Lao People's Democratic Republic • Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs through the NAPA, volume 1[n](available in English, French and Portuguese) • Inputs to the preparation of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the LDCs, which was organized by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States **GEF:** • Publication on accessing resources under the LDCF[o] **Decision 5/CP.17, "National adaptation plans":** • Adoption of initial guidelines for the formulation of the NAP

Year	*Milestones*
	process
	• The LEG to provide technical guidance and support to the NAP process
	• The LEG to prepare technical guidelines for the NAP process, arrange a review of these technical guidelines before COP 18 and identify support for the process of formulation and implementation of the NAPs
	• The LEG to invite the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to contribute to its work in support of the NAP process. The GEF to consider how to enable activities for the preparation of the NAP process for the LDC Parties, while maintaining progress for the LDC work programme
	Decision 9/CP.17, "Least Developed Countries Fund: support for the implementation of elements of the least developed countries work programme other than national adaptation programmes of action":
	• The LEG to provide further specification on each of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs, in consultation with the GEF
2012	**LEG:**
	• Provision of further specification on each of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
	• Training materials and conduct of one of five regional training workshops for 2012–2013 on adaptation and the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The first workshop targeted Pacific LDCs and took place in Funafuti, Tuvalu, in September/October
	• Technical guidelines for the NAP process[a] (available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish) and by-products (CD-ROM, posters)
	• Organization of an expert meeting to review the draft NAP guidelines. The meeting took place in October in Bonn, Germany
	GEF and United Nations agencies:
	• Development of a global support programme for the NAPs to facilitate financial and technical support to LDCs. The programme is funded under the GEF/LDCF
	Decision 12/CP.18, "National adaptation plans":
	• The GEF, as the operating entity of the LDCF, to enable activities for the preparation of the NAP process by LDC Parties
	• Parties and relevant organizations to continue to assist the LDC Parties, drawing upon the work of, and where appropriate in consultation with, the LEG, in building national institutional arrangements and capacities to support scientific and technical capacity needs, as identified by the LDC Parties, for undertaking the NAP

Year	*Milestones*
	process • United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies to support the NAP process in LDCs, where possible, to consider establishing or enhancing support programmes for the NAP process within their mandates • Parties and relevant organizations to share best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation through, inter alia, the ongoing work of the LEG
2013	**LEG:** • Conduct of the remaining three regional training workshops for 2012–2013 for LDCs on adaptation and the process to formulate and implement NAPS for francophone LDCs in Lomé, Togo, in March; African anglophone LDCs in Kigali, Rwanda, in July/August; and Asian LDCs in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in August • NAP Expo: focusing on launching of the NAP process, in Bonn in June • Publication on the NAP process – a brief overview[f] (available in English, French and Portuguese) • Publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs, volume 2[g](available in English, French and Portuguese) **Adaptation Committee:** • Establishment of a task force on NAPs and engagement of the LEG in the work of the task force **GEF:** • The Council of the LDCF and Special Climate Change Fund endorsed guidelines for funding the NAPs that were prepared by the GEF secretariat in response to COP guidance **Decision 2/CP.19, "Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts":** • The COP decided that, as an interim measure, the executive committee of the mechanism should consist of two representatives from each of the following bodies under the Convention, ensuring that there is a balanced representation between developed and developing country Parties: the Adaptation Committee, the LEG, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Technology Executive Committee and the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention **Decision 17/CP.19, "Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change":** • The relevance of the Nairobi work programme should be enhanced, on the basis of, inter alia, the development of linkages with other relevant workstreams, including the NAP process, research and systematic observation and bodies under the Convention, including the

Year	*Milestones*
	Adaptation Committee, the LEG and the Technology Mechanism
	Decision 18/CP.19, "National adaptation plans": • Welcoming the technical guidelines for the NAP process developed by the LEG • Welcoming the establishment of the NAP global support programme for the LDCs
2014	**LEG:** • Convening of a technical meeting on NAPs that worked on a sample NAP process. The meeting was held in Dar es Salaam in February • NAP Expo, focusing on catalysing actions and support for the NAP process. It took place in Bonn in August • Conduct of the first regional training workshop on NAPs for 2014–2015, in collaboration with the global support programmes on NAPs for LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs. This first workshop targeted Pacific countries and was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, in November
	GEF and United Nations agencies: • To date, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have jointly held four regional workshops under the NAP global support programme to support LDCs in the preparation of their NAPs • To date, 27 LDCs have requested in-country targeted support from the NAP global support programme, and UNDP/UNEP have stated that all LDCs will probably be receiving this type of support by early 2015 (pending final approval of GEF funds)
	Decision 3/CP.20, "National adaptation plans": • The Adaptation Committee and the LEG, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to SBI 42
	Decision 10/CP.20, "Further guidance to the Least Developed Countries Fund": • Further guidance to the LDCF for supporting the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
2015	**LEG:** • Second regional training workshop on NAPs for 2014–2015, targeting Eastern and Southern African countries, held in Livingstone, Zambia, in February • Stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG held in Bangkok

Year	*Milestones*

	in March
	• NAP Expo, focusing on realizing the NAP process. It took place in Bonn in April
	• The Adaptation Committee, in collaboration with the LEG, conducted a workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The workshop took place in Bonn in April and was a response to a mandate received at SBI 40
	• Interaction with, inter alia, the GCF during the 27th meeting of the LEG and the NAP Expo
	• Upcoming activities in 2015:
	    • Conduct of the remaining three regional training workshops on NAPs
	    • Release of several publications to support the NAPA, the LDC work programme and the process to formulate and implement NAPs
	
	GEF and United Nations agencies:
	• Launch of a global project to build capacity for LDCs to participate effectively in intergovernmental climate change processes. The initiative is funded under the GEF/the LDCF

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[a] Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/annguid_e.pdf>.

[b] FCCC/TP/2005/2.

[c] FCCC/TP/2005/3.

[d] FCCC/TP/2005/4.

[e] FCCC/TP/2005/5.

[f] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/603>.

[g] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/250%20E#beg>.

[h] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/253%20E#beg>.

[i] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?rec=j&priref=6988#beg>.

[j] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?rec=j&priref=6989#beg>.

[k] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/253%20E#beg>.

[l] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/3215>.

[m] FCCC/TP/2011/7.

[n] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/4433>.

[o] Available at <unfccc.int/7279>.

[p] Available at <unfccc.int/7279>.

[q] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/278%20E#beg>.

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda
Matters relating to the least developed countries

Report on the 27th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Note by the secretariat[*]

Summary

This document reports on the 27th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 14 March 2015. At the meeting, the LEG reviewed progress on the implementation of its work programme for 2014–2015, with a focus on the following activities: outcome of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG; status of implementation of the national adaptation programmes of action; status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs); technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs; regional training workshops for the process to formulate and implement NAPs; NAP Expo 2015; workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee; outreach on the NAP process; gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the least developed countries; monitoring and evaluation of the process to formulate and implement NAPs; best practices and lessons learned; support of coherence and synergy of adaptation under the Convention; mobilization of organizations, regional centres and networks; and interaction with the Global Environment Facility and its agencies, and with the Green Climate Fund. The document concludes with an update of the priority activities of the work programme of the LEG.

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[*] This document was submitted after the due date in order to take into account relevant inputs.

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I. Mandate

1. The mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) was extended at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) for a period of five years (2011–2015). The COP requested the LEG to develop a two-year rolling programme of work for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its first sessional meeting of each year, and to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions.[1]

II. Summary of the 27th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

2. The 27th meeting of the LEG was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 14 March 2015, immediately following the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, which was held at the same location from 9 to11 March 2015 (see paras. 40–43 below).

3. At its 27th meeting, the LEG discussed the outcomes of the following two meetings in which it had taken part:

(a) A meeting held on 8 March 2015 with relevant organizations on the alignment of the materials being developed as supplements to the technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan (NAP) process.[2] The organizations present were Conservation International, the Global Water Partnership, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, the International Water Management Institute and the University of Washington;

(b) On 11 March 2015, on the margins of the stocktaking meeting, the LEG had a discussion with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and two of its agencies, namely the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

B. Addressing additional mandates from the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Conference of the Parties

4. In addition to its work programme for 2014–2015, the LEG considered the following mandates emanating from SBI 40 and 41 and from COP 16 and 20:

(a) The SBI invited the LEG and the Adaptation Committee to explore ways in which developing country Parties that are not least developed countries (LDCs) could be accommodated in the NAP Expo.[3] As a result, 20 developing country Parties that are not LDCs were invited to participate in the NAP Expo 2015 (see paras. 44–47 below for further information on the NAP Expo 2015);

(b) The SBI invited the Adaptation Committee, in collaboration with the LEG, to organize a workshop, back to back with a relevant meeting where possible, drawing upon experts and practitioners at different levels to share experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, to be held prior to SBI 42.[4] The Adaptation Committee, in collaboration with the LEG, decided to organize this workshop immediately after the NAP Expo 2015. The workshop took place from 16 to 17 April 2015, in Bonn, Germany;[5]

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[1] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 3.

[2] *National Adaptation Plans: Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process.* Available at <http://unfccc.int/7279>.

[3] FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraphs 102.

(c) The SBI invited the LEG and the Adaptation Committee to prepare an information paper on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs based on the NAP Expo and relevant documents for consideration by SBI 41 and to serve as an input to the workshop mentioned in paragraph 4(b) above.[6] The LEG and the Adaptation Committee developed the information paper[7] and it was made available before SBI 41. The paper was further used as input to the workshop;

(d) The SBI invited the Adaptation Committee, in collaboration with the LEG and with the support of the secretariat, to prepare a report on the workshop mentioned in paragraph 4(b) above to be considered at SBI 42.[8] The report has been prepared;[9]

(e) The COP decided to explore options for enhancing reporting related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs as part of the workshop referred to in paragraph 4(b) above, and the review to monitor and evaluate progress made on the NAP process referred to in decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 37.[10] The COP request was accommodated in the design of the workshop, with the second day of the event being dedicated to discussions on reporting;

(f) The COP requested the Adaptation Committee and the LEG, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to SBI 42.[11] The LEG interacted with representatives of the GCF during the meeting and during the NAP Expo 2015, based on the guiding questions listed in annex III, with a view to providing relevant and timely information to the LDCs on the operation of the GCF. At the meeting, the LEG decided to invite the GCF to its meetings on a regular basis;

(g) COP 16 decided that COP 21 would review the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG and to adopt a decision thereon. It decided on a set of actions to initiate the review, including a request to the LEG to convene a meeting, including with Parties, the GEF and its agencies, and other relevant organizations, with the assistance of the secretariat, to take stock of its work, before June 2015.[12] The LEG organized such a stocktaking meeting in March 2015 (see paras. 40–43 below).[13]

C. Status of implementation of national adaptation programmes of action

5. The GEF reported that, as at 2 March 2015, 50 LDCs had officially submitted national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) implementation project proposals in the form of project identification forms for funding under the Least Developed Countries Fund

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[4] FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 106.
[5] <unfccc.int/8903>.
[6] FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 107.
[7] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.14.
[8] FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 108.
[9] FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.6.
[10] Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 8.
[11] Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 11.
[12] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 9(a).
[13] The report on that meeting is contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/8.

(LDCF). Of these, 48 countries had submitted at least two projects and 45 countries had submitted three or more projects. The majority of the projects submitted are on agriculture (31 per cent), disaster risk management (19 per cent), coastal zone management (13 per cent) and water resources management (12 per cent).

6. The GEF also indicated that, in total, 161 projects (including 8 medium-sized projects and 153 full-sized projects) had been approved by the GEF Council, with LDCF grants amounting to USD 905.6 million since 2007. Of the projects approved, 108 (excluding for NAPA preparation) had been endorsed or approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF.

7. The GEF further indicated that five of these projects had been completed, while others were at various stages of implementation or ready to enter implementation. The terminal evaluation of each completed project identifies lessons learned, some of which are contained in paragraphs 76–88 below. Table 1 provides further details of the completed projects.

Table 1

Projects from the national adaptation programmes of action completed with support from the Least Developed Countries Fund[a]

Country	*Title of project*	*CEO*[b] *endorsement*	*Total project cost (USD million)*
Bhutan	Reducing climate-change-induced risks and vulnerabilities from glacial lake outburst floods in Punakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar valleys	March 2008	8.274
Burkina Faso	Strengthening adaptation capacities and reducing the vulnerability to climate change in Burkina Faso	April 2009	23.495
Cabo Verde	Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in the water sector in Cabo Verde	September 2009	67.399
Cambodia	Promoting climate-resilient water management and agricultural practices in rural Cambodia	April 2009	4.485
Samoa	Integrating climate change risks in the agriculture and health sectors in Samoa	February 2009	4.405

[a] All projects have been implemented with the United Nations Development Programme as the implementing agency.

[b] Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility.

8. The GEF reported that, as of mid-2014, there has been a lack of resources in the LDCF. As a result, 22 projects that have been cleared by the GEF secretariat, some of which for more than a year, are still in the LDCF pipeline and cannot be approved until significant additional resources are made available in the LDCF. See annex I for a full list.

D. Status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Launching of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

9. Several countries have embarked on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, according to information provided to the LEG at a formal launch event and information contained in the information paper on NAPs,[14] presentations made at the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) workshops held in March, April and July 2014, the NAP Expos held in August 2014 and April 2015, and the LEG regional training workshops on NAPs held in November 2014 for Pacific countries and February 2015 for Eastern and Southern African countries.[15] While these sources of information might not cover all countries that have embarked on the NAP process, they do offer some insights on the critical mass of countries that are making progress in the process.

10. The countries mentioned include:

(a) LDCs: Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia;

(b) Developing countries that are not LDCs: Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Morocco, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe;

11. At least one developed country has also embarked on the NAP process; Japan announced during the workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned and gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs that it has started the process.

2. Status of formulation of national adaptation plans

12. Several countries have communicated the status of their NAPs; this information is summarized in table 2. In its statement at COP 20, the Sudan indicated that it has a NAP. Chile has also stated that it has produced a NAP.[16] During the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, Burkina Faso indicated that it is undertaking final consultations on its draft NAP.

3. Progress on support provided[17]

13. Information on support provided thus far to the LDCs under and outside the Convention for the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be found in the report on the 26th meeting of the LEG[18] and in the information paper on the NAP process prepared for

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[14] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.25, paragraphs 14–15.

[15] Information available at: <unfccc.int/nap>, <http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>, <napexpo.org/2014> and <napexpo.org/2015>.

[16] Available at <http://portal.mma.gob.cl/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/PAN-web2.pdf>.

[17] Support provided by the LEG is described in chapter II.E below.

[18] FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 10–16.

COP 20.[19] Additional examples of the support provided since the 26th meeting of the LEG are listed in paragraphs 14–16 below.

Table 2

Summary of measures undertaken by developing country Parties in the national adaptation plan process as at 14 April 2015[a]

Element of national adaptation plan process	*Number of developing countries*	*Measures*
Laying the groundwork and addressing gaps	6 (4)[b, c]	Stakeholder consultations
	4 (4)[d]	Stocktaking of available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation
	10 (10)[e]	Assessing gaps and needs in relation to the enabling environment for the national adaptation plan (NAP) process
	23 (21)[f]	Development of road maps and strategies for the NAP process (or in the process of doing so)
Preparatory elements	4 (3)[g]	Development of NAPs
	2 (2)[h]	Comprehensive risk and vulnerability assessments
	11 (4)[i]	Integration of adaptation into national and subnational development planning
Implementation strategies	1[j]	Development of implementation strategy for medium- and long-term adaptation
Reporting, monitoring and review	1[k]	Monitoring indicators (preparation of)

[a] Update to table 1 in document FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.25.

[b] Figures in brackets indicate the number of least developed countries.

[c] Benin, Comoros, Jamaica, Malawi, Togo and United Republic of Tanzania.

[d] Cambodia, Lesotho, Niger and Togo.

[e] Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Niger, Senegal and Sudan.

[f] Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

[g] Burkina Faso, Chile, Ethiopia and Sudan.

[h] Lesotho and United Republic of Tanzania.

[i] Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

[j] Republic of Moldova.

[k] Colombia.

14. The NAP-GSP for the LDCs pursued the activities indicated in the report on the 26th meeting of the LEG and in addition, it conducted the following activities from September 2014 to March 2015: regional training workshops for the Pacific LDCs in November 2014,

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[19] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.25.

in conjunction with the LEG regional training workshop for Pacific countries; technical support for the organization of an in-country training workshop on NAPs in Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Malawi. In addition, the NAP-GSP is planning a NAP orientation event in 2015 for senior decision makers in Mauritania and the United Republic of Tanzania. In the case of the United Republic of Tanzania, the event will be followed by a technical training workshop. Training workshops are also planned to be conducted in Angola, Liberia and Madagascar, and Mozambique will be supported in undertaking stocktaking with a focus on cross-sectoral issues.

15. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has started work to support the process to formulate and implement NAPs in Uganda and Malawi through the strengthening of the capacity of key institutions, including the ministries of agriculture, environment and planning, and the local authorities. FAO also supports these countries in developing a road map for their process and generating evidence-based results of adaptation options for the agriculture sector using experimental design principles in a monitoring framework. FAO intends to conduct similar activities between 2015 and 2019 in the following countries: Kenya, Nepal, the Philippines, Rwanda, Thailand, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

16. The LEG noted that more information on support provided to countries, including on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, is available through other channels under the Convention, including:

(a) Fast-start finance;[20]

(b) National communications;[21]

(c) Relevant submissions from Parties and organizations, including on finance, technology and capacity-building, NAPs and the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.[22]

E. Technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Training on national adaptation plans

17. The LEG organized the first two of the five regional workshops on NAPs it has planned for 2014–2015 in collaboration with the NAP-GSP for LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs. The first workshop targeted Pacific countries and took place from 3 to 7 November 2014, in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The second workshop targeted Eastern and Southern Africa and took place from 23 to 27 February 2015, in Livingstone, Zambia.

18. In organizing these workshops, the LEG worked together with various organizations, agencies and regional centres through an advisory group.

19. The training workshops were open to LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs in the region where the event took place. They were intended for national experts involved in the process to formulate and implement NAPs or other national adaptation planning and implementation efforts.

20. The training workshop for the Pacific countries was attended by 15 participants representing the four LDCs (Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) and five developing countries that are not LDCs (Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau and

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[20] <http://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=116:8:1596502543078050>.

[21] <http://unfccc.int/4056>.

[22] < http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions>.

Samoa) in the region. Representatives of the NAP-GSP, the GEF and its agencies, in particular UNDP and UNEP, the World Health Organization, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the secretariat of the Pacific Community, the University of the South Pacific, Griffith University and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization attended the workshop and served as resource persons.

21. The training workshop for Eastern and Southern Africa was attended by 46 participants representing the 12 LDCs (Angola, Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) and 6 developing countries that are not LDCs (Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe) in the region.

22. The training used a mix of approaches, including lecture-type sessions, group exercises and showcase of country experiences. Tools and other resources of direct use to the countries to facilitate their work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs were provided. The country experiences were shared through several country presentations. The training materials were enhanced after the Pacific workshop to integrate feedback and suggestions for improvement received from participants and to tailor the materials to address the specific needs of the Eastern and Southern African countries. In the latter, the sessions were organized along the 10 essential functions of the NAP process to effectively drive the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The same approach will be adopted for the remaining workshops.

23. A large part of the training materials being used for the regional training workshops are derived from a sourcebook that the LEG is currently developing (see also para. 98(e) below). The LEG aims to finalize the sourcebook this year. The sourcebook intends to focus on 'how to', providing details on well-tested approaches and resources of direct use to the countries to facilitate their work on the NAP process. It will serve as a reference guide for national teams in their efforts under the process to formulate and implement NAPs in their country.

24. The LEG decided to organize the remaining regional training workshops on NAPs between July and November 2015 for North and West Africa, francophone LDCs and Asia. Lusophone LDCs will also be accommodated through an arrangement that will ensure effective use of resources. The exact dates and venues will be announced in the near future.

25. The LEG took note that the following experiences, best practices and lessons learned were shared during the first two workshops:

(a) Most country groups have a good grasp of their existing plans and policies, which makes it easier for them to understand the alignment of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(b) Existing plans and policies such as the NAPAs, the Joint National Action Plans in the Pacific and national development plans are a good basis for building on existing arrangements to develop a comprehensive adaptation planning framework;

(c) There are already existing institutional arrangements that can serve as the foundation for the institutional arrangements needed for the NAP process.

26. The LEG also took note of the following emerging needs for support expressed by participants at the workshops:

(a) Guidance on ways to formulate and implement NAPs across sectors/ministries and time frames;

(b) Understanding of how to make various international and regional programmes work in support of national efforts on adaptation under the NAP umbrella, to avoid conflicting messages and duplication of efforts;

(c) Understanding of how different vulnerability and risk assessments can be harmonized across sectors, as well as the harmonization of tools and methodologies;

(d) Further guidance to move from the assessment of climate vulnerabilities and risk to the identification of adaptation options and the development of robust programmes, policies and projects, including through showcasing real case studies;

(e) Ensuring effective engagement and capacity-building of institutions best suited to collect information, including non-governmental institutions;

(f) Developing scenarios at the nexus between climate change and socioeconomic considerations, building on the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

(g) Stocktaking of information already captured in existing monitoring and evaluation systems in different sectors, and assessment of the suitability of existing frameworks to monitor progress under the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(h) Practical ways to link the NAP process with low-carbon development strategies, the Sustainable Development Goals, the GCF and other relevant processes.

2. Supporting the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans through NAP Central

27. The design of NAP Central features three main categories of sites, namely:

(a) Country portals: these provide countries with the opportunity to manage their NAP materials, including archiving documents. They also serve as submission portals through which countries can share outputs and outcomes of their NAPs with the secretariat;[23]

(b) Collaborative sites: the user groups include the LEG, the Adaptation Committee and any other relevant organizations;

(c) Public pages: these comprise the NAP technical guidelines and relevant resources on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, information on support, event pages, country dashboards, navigators and case studies.

28. The LEG reviewed the progress made in further operationalizing each of the site categories. It noted that the country portals and the public pages[24] are already operational, and countries are able to share documents with the public pages of the system.

29. The LEG agreed that the next steps will involve finalizing the collaborative sites, enhancing the user interface for the public pages, and releasing all components to be found in the menu on the home page of NAP Central.

30. The LEG agreed to develop a pamphlet announcing NAP Central with a brief guide on how to use it. The NAP Central manual, a comprehensive user guide, is being developed as part of the development of NAP Central. The LEG also agreed to broaden the involvement of the support group in providing additional ideas on how NAP Central can be enhanced in providing support to the process of formulating and implementing NAPs.

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[23] Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 9.

[24] <www.unfccc.int/nap>.

3. Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans can be supported in the least developed countries

31. This information paper aims to inform the design and provision of support to the LDCs as they embark on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, by providing information on available support, including technical and capacity-building support, technology and finance. It also encourages countries to explore multiple sources of funding for different aspects of the process. Finally, it showcases how to use the sample NAP process developed by the LEG as a scoping tool to identify activities that could be undertaken and match them with sources of funding.

32. Building on its discussions at its 26th meeting,[25] the LEG decided to update the information contained in the advanced draft and make the paper available in the course of 2015.

4. Monitoring and evaluation of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

33. The LEG discussed the work it has done since its 26th meeting to further enhance the draft technical paper describing the tool for monitoring and evaluating progress, effectiveness and gaps (the PEG M&E tool) and its application to the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

34. The PEG M&E tool builds on the 10 essential functions of the process to formulate and implement NAPs as defined by the LEG.[26] Those functions, presented in box 1, constitute the services that the process to formulate and implement NAPs is meant to deliver to countries. The PEG M&E tool also suggests expected outcomes and metrics in the form of indicative questions/checklists for each essential function, which will support countries in monitoring and evaluating that function.

Box 1

Essential functions of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

Essential function 1: helping governments to provide national leadership and coordination of adaptation efforts at all levels and to act as the main interface with regional and international mechanisms.

Essential function 2: the collection, compilation, processing and dissemination of data, information and knowledge on climate change and relevant development aspects in support of adaptation planning and implementation.

Essential function 3: identifying and addressing gaps and needs related to the capacity for the successful design and implementation of adaptation.

Essential function 4: assessing climate-development linkages and needs and supporting the integration of climate change adaptation into national and subnational development and sectoral planning (through policies, projects and programmes).

Essential function 5: analysing climate data and assessing vulnerabilities to climate change and identifying adaptation.

Essential function 6: appraising adaptation options to support decision-making on adaptation investment plans and development planning.

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[25] See document FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 18–19.

[26] FCCC/SBI/2013/15, paragraph 43.

Essential function 7: promoting and facilitating the prioritization of climate change adaptation in national planning.

Essential function 8: facilitating the implementation of adaptation at all levels through appropriate policies, projects and programmes, taking into account opportunities for synergy.

Essential function 9: facilitating the monitoring, review and updating of adaptation plans over time in order to ensure progress and effectiveness of adaptation efforts and to demonstrate how gaps are being addressed.

Essential function 10: coordinating reporting and outreach on the national adaptation plan process to stakeholders nationally and internationally, and formally on progress to the secretariat.

35. The LEG will test the PEG M&E tool through case studies at the national level and in collaboration with relevant partners and organizations. After the test period, the LEG also intends to update the tool as necessary, taking into consideration lessons learned from its application at the country level.

5. Supplementary materials to the technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

36. The LEG met with some of the organizations developing supplements to the NAP technical guidelines on 8 March 2015, one day before the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG. During the above-mentioned meeting, the organizations discussed possible modalities to jointly advance technical work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This initiative aims to promote coherence of various approaches that are included in the supplementary materials.

37. Following this introductory meeting, the same organizations, in consultation with the LEG, organized a full-day meeting during the NAP Expo. The group discussed how to best encourage coherence in the NAP process through integrated approaches across the various sectoral issues, recognizing that NAPs are inherently cross-sectoral but are often dealt with in silos. Participants agreed to establish a NAP technical working group to consider an integrating framework for the NAP process that would elaborate key avenues for the integrated approaches for the formulation and implementation of the NAPs. Case studies will be conducted and documented at the national level to elaborate ways in which the integrating framework can be applied.

38. The LEG decided to continue to provide information on the NAP guidelines and contribute, without any implied endorsement, to the work of the NAP technical working group and other organizations as they develop individual or joint supplementary materials on the NAP guidelines.

39. Additional information on supplements to the NAP technical guidelines can be found in the report on the 26th meeting of the LEG.[27]

F. Stocktaking meeting on the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

40. The stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG took place from 9 to 11 March 2015 in Bangkok. The LEG noted that Parties and relevant organizations present had very

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[27] FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 25–27.

fruitful discussions. They took stock of the work of the LEG over the past 14 years, including the modalities that the LEG has employed to conduct its work and its collaboration activities with relevant organizations.

41. All Parties and other participants noted, with great satisfaction, the success of the LEG and the important role it plays in supporting LDCs. The Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States commended the LEG for having provided, since it was established,[28] some dedicated support to the LDCs, including through the NAPAs and NAPs. He indicated that the LEG has played a key role in consolidating linkages between LDCs and relevant institutions and organizations. He recognized that the LEG has also provided a strong impetus and necessary groundwork on adaptation in the LDCs. He noted the importance of the scaling up of the work of the LEG, including for preparing LDCs to fully access the GCF, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, the Under-Secretary-General stressed the need to ensure that adaptation actions are undertaken in coherence and coordination with other global processes, including the Istanbul Programme of Action[29] for LDCs and the post-2015 development agenda.

42. The LEG took stock of its work during its current mandate, and noted the following:

(a) The LEG has supported LDCs efficiently by providing detailed information and guidelines on how to prepare and implement NAPAs;

(b) The LEG has provided useful specifications on each of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs;[30]

(c) The LEG successfully developed the technical guidelines for the NAP process. These have been welcomed by Parties and other stakeholders, and are being used as the main resource for the process of formulating and implementing NAPs;

(d) The LEG has played an active role in supporting the work of other bodies under the Convention. For example, the participation of LEG members in the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, including as a Co-Chair of the Committee, contributed to the successful production of the workplan for the Committee;

(e) The LEG, as a dedicated support to LDCs for addressing climate change, is seen as a best practice which needs to be continued and strengthened;

(f) The achievements of the LEG lie in great part in its efforts to collaborate with the GEF and its agencies and a wide range of relevant organizations to support its work. There is value in further strengthening this collaboration to respond to the emerging needs of the LDCs.

43. The participants also discussed some of the emerging gaps and needs for fully implementing the NAPAs, and for effectively driving forward the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This led them to explore new areas in which the support of the LEG could be instrumental. Those ideas, as presented in the report on the stocktaking meeting,[31] could serve as useful input for future work programmes of the LEG.

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[28] Decision 29/CP.7.

[29] The Istanbul Programme of Action presents the vision and strategy of the international community for the sustainable development of the LDCs for the decade 2011–2020 with a strong focus on developing the productive capacities of LDCs. More information is available at <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/istanbul-programme-of-action/>.

[30] See document FCCC/SBI/2012/7, paras 31–45.

[31] FCCC/SBI/2015/8.

G. Outreach on the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

1. The NAP Expo

44. The LEG discussed arrangements for the organization of the NAP Expo 2015. The LEG members decided to prepare a summary report on the event soon after it had taken place, to be integrated into the report on the 27th meeting of the LEG. As a result, this summary report is presented below.

45. The NAP Expo was held on 14 and 15 April 2015. It preceded the workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The event was attended by over 160 participants with affiliations similar to those who attended the NAP Expo in 2014, namely:

(a) Parties: LDCs; developing countries that are not LDCs, which were invited in response to the SBI 40 mandate referred to in paragraph 4(a) above; countries with economies in transition and developed countries;

(b) Convention bodies: the LEG, the Adaptation Committee and the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE);

(c) United Nations organizations and specialized agencies;

(d) The NAP-GSP;

(e) Bilateral and multilateral agencies;

(f) Regional centres and networks;

(g) Non-governmental organizations;

(h) Research institutions;

(i) Individual experts, including lead authors of various chapters of the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC.[32]

46. Participants noted the value of the NAP Expos, and commended the LEG for a very successful event. The LEG discussed the need to start planning early for future Expos, and decided to engage the advisory group for the NAP Expos in the near future in order to start planning dates and venue in good time for next year. The LEG noted the great success of the sessions organized by partnering organizations during the first day of the Expo. The LEG decided to further enhance the engagement of relevant organizations in partnering in future NAP Expos, including greater participation in the logistical arrangements.

47. The key messages from the NAP Expo 2015 are presented in box 2. They reflect the outcome of the presentations and the rich discussions that were held during the parallel and plenary sessions.

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[32] Additional background information on the NAP Expo 2015 is available at <unfccc.int/8887>.

Box 2

NAP Expo 2015 themes and key messages

Integration of adaptation into development planning processes

- Integration is a process in itself and happens over several years – it is not a prerequisite for formulating and implementing adaptation plans; rather, it is an important early activity
- Institutional arrangements for integration are best motivated and guided by needs for monitoring and reporting at the national level. For example, the need to monitor and review climate change funding can motivate the creation of budget codes for climate change
- Country ownership at all levels and high-level commitment and political will is very important. Commitment needs to be over the long term to ensure continuity beyond political mandates
- Programmatic approaches provide an opportunity to address adaptation through a multi-sectoral, multiple-scale approach, with a longer time frame and potential for resource optimization
- Planning in an integrated manner is a useful basis for long-term planning and requires the inputs and participation of diverse experts and stakeholders, and may involve major changes in systems and infrastructure
- Financial needs assessment at various stages of the NAP process could help to identify relevant sources of funding (including the private sector) and the mobilization of resources

Supporting an integrated approach for the NAP process

- A group of organizations and agencies together with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) discussed how to best encourage coherence in the technical aspects of the NAPs through integrated approaches across the various dimensions (sectors, scales, themes), recognizing that NAPs are inherently cross-sectoral
- Participants agreed to establish a NAP technical working group to explore possible avenues for the integrated approaches for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, including through working on country case studies. The NAP technical working group decided to start its work by the consideration of an integrating framework for the preparatory element of the NAP process

Ecosystem-based approaches

- When undertaking ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation, it is important to take into account non-climate pressures on ecosystems
- An ecosystem-based approach is an approach within an overall adaptation strategy and it is important to assess all the options, including through cost–benefit analyses

Monitoring and evaluation

- There is a difference between the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the NAP process and M&E of adaptation
- When developing a national adaptation M&E system, the first step should be to define the purpose of M&E, identify the users and define how the system can facilitate learning
- National adaptation M&E systems need to be tailored to the national context and linked to existing data and monitoring systems. Learning from other countries' examples is very useful

Regional approaches

- Enhanced and more formal collaboration between the LEG and regional centres and networks would ensure better coverage of regional issues and promote South–South collaboration between LDCs and non-LDCs
- Regional centres and networks are useful platforms for creating adaptation communities of practice such as for regional programmes, technical assessments and support to regional policies
- The regional level is another important scale for exploring adaptation options (policies, programmes and activities), in addition to the national and subnational levels

Six dimensions of successful adaptation[a]

- Success depends in part on how adaptation is interpreted
- Success tends to be more difficult to define than failure
- There is no final success as adaptation is an evolutionary process; instead, it may be easier to define progress
- Six key dimensions of successful adaptation are:
  - Process – assessment and planning process
  - Decision-making – choose good options and make the right decision
  - Implementation – successfully implement specific adaptation
  - Outcome – good adaptation outcome, avoid maladaptation
  - Capacity – establish enabling conditions
  - Overcome barriers – identify and develop effective strategies to overcome barriers

[a] From a keynote presentation by Susanne Moser, available at <http://napexpo.org/2015/?session=session-viii-plenary>.

2. Publication of an overview of the process to formulate and implement the national adaptation plans and other products

48. Based on the feedback received in its regional training workshops and interaction with the Adaptation Committee, the LEG acknowledged the need for broadening the awareness of the guidelines for NAPs, in particular at the national level to ensure full country-ownership and buy-in.

49. In this context, it decided to develop a publication presenting an overview of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.[33] The LEG reviewed the extended outline of the draft publication at the meeting.

50. The LEG decided to make the publication available by SBI 42 or soon thereafter.

H. Support of coherence and synergy of adaptation under the Convention

1. Inputs to the work of the interim Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

51. The LEG noted that the work it had done as part of the interim Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism came to an end at COP 20.

52. The LEG continued to acknowledge the potential importance of analysing the mandates and workplans or work programmes of relevant constituted bodies and expert groups with a view to identifying linkages and areas of coherence and synergy.

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[33] More information on this publication can be found in document FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 35–37.

2. Collaboration with the Adaptation Committee

53. The LEG took part in the 6th meeting of the Adaptation Committee, held in September 2014.[34] The LEG also took part in a meeting on NAPs organized by the Adaptation Committee task force on NAPs just before the 6th meeting of the Adaptation Committee. This meeting aimed to explore strategic efforts to address gaps and needs encountered by developing countries when undertaking the process to formulate and implement NAPs.[35]

54. The LEG collaborated with the Adaptation Committee in preparing an information paper on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.[36] The LEG further collaborated on the organization of the workshop on the same theme that took place from 15 to 16 April in Bonn.

55. In parallel, the LEG continued its ongoing collaboration with the Adaptation Committee on the further development of NAP Central, the organization of the NAP Expos and capturing best practices and lessons learned in adaptation, and through the work of the task force.

3. Collaboration with the entities of the Technology Mechanism

56. The LEG discussed ways to enhance its collaboration with entities of the Technology Mechanism. The LEG members suggested that it would be a good idea to approach the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) to join efforts to better communicate opportunities offered by the CTCN to support the implementation of NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

57. In addition, the LEG agreed that it would be a good opportunity to invite the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) to provide, as part of the materials for the regional training workshops on NAPs, relevant modules that would provide information on the support available to LDCs for accessing technologies for adaptation.

58. The LEG also discussed the possibility of developing an information paper that would provide examples of the application of adaptation technologies in adaptation planning and implementation, in collaboration with the TEC.

59. The LEG agreed to invite the TEC and the CTCN to collaborate on the activities indicated in paragraphs 56–58 above.

4. Revision of the technical papers on regional synergy and synergy among multilateral environmental agreements

60. Information on the revision of the technical papers on regional synergy and synergy among multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) is contained in the report on the 26th meeting of the LEG.[37] See also paragraph 98(c) below.

I. Mobilization of organizations, regional centres and networks

61. The LEG took note of its continuous engagement with a wide range of organizations, regional centres and networks in the implementation of its work programme for 2014–2015. It noted that it had engaged various experts and/or representatives from:

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[34] See <http://unfccc.int/8467>.

[35] Information on the outcome of the meeting is available at <unfccc.int/8467>, agenda item 5 on NAPs.

[36] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.14.

[37] FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 52–54.

(a) Parties;

(b) Convention bodies (the Adaptation Committee, the TEC, the Standing Committee on Finance and the CGE);

(c) The GEF;

(d) The GCF;

(e) United Nations organizations and specialized agencies;

(f) Bilateral and multilateral agencies;

(g) Regional centres and networks;

(h) NAP-GSP for LDCs;

(i) National, regional and international non-governmental organizations.

62. Specific activities for which the experts and/or representatives were engaged included the LEG regional training workshops on NAPs for Pacific countries and for Eastern and Southern Africa (see paras. 17–26 above), the LEG side event at SBI 41, the conduct of some of the sessions at the NAP Expo 2015, the ongoing development of NAP Central and the finalization of some of the LEG products, including the publication on strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs.

63. The LEG decided to continue to mobilize relevant organizations and experts in implementing its work programme.

J. Discussions with the Global Environment Facility and its agencies

64. The LEG, the GEF and two of its agencies, UNDP and UNEP, met on 11 March 2015, one day before the meeting of the LEG. They discussed the current situation in the LDCF and emerging issues and lessons learned from completed LDCF projects and GEF programmatic approaches. During its closed meeting, the LEG decided to solicit the GEF for complementary information. It received the requested information electronically and has integrated it into this report.

65. The LEG noted the difficulty of receiving regular inputs from agencies other than UNEP and UNDP on their activities in providing support to the NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

1. Discussion on the level of funding currently in the Least Developed Countries Fund and amount each least developed country can access in 2015

66. The GEF, UNDP and UNEP warned that the lack of resources in the LDCF (see para. 8 above) is jeopardizing the momentum that countries had gained for fully implementing their NAPA priorities and conducting the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

67. UNDP and UNEP further explained that although the NAP-GSP can do the initial work with countries, meaningful progress in the NAPs will depend on the level of resources available for countries to conduct the process. The bulk of the work to advance efforts at the country level on the formulation of NAPs is within the LDCF projects awaiting funding. Some countries have already reorientated some of the approved LDCF money to do their NAP but it is a challenging exercise. UNDP stated that the priority over the next six months should be to ensure that LDCs have the resources that they need to fully

implement their NAPAs and continue progressing in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

68. The LEG shared the concerns of the GEF, UNDP and UNEP, namely that the lack of funding in the LDCF is likely to impede the full implementation of NAPAs and undermine the momentum created for the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The LEG felt that this situation would also affect the implementation of some of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs. The LEG encouraged the GEF to find ways to mobilize sufficient resources this year to at least fund projects that are in the LDCF pipeline and which have been technically cleared by the GEF secretariat (see annex I). The LEG also indicated that it stands ready to provide any supporting information for the meeting of the LDCF- SCCF Council in June, if invited by the GEF to do so.

2. Other elements of the least developed countries work programme

69. On the margins of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, UNDP and UNEP organized the launch of their global project: "Building capacity for LDCs to participate effectively in intergovernmental climate change processes", which is being funded through the LDCF. This project aims to strengthen institutional and technical capacities in the LDCs for more effective participation in intergovernmental climate change negotiations and coordination of climate change efforts.

70. The global project was launched on 11 March 2015. The Chairs of the LEG and the LDC group were invited to sit on the board and provided inputs prior to the launch. UNDP and UNEP decided, in consultation with the LDC group and the LEG, to organize a training workshop for LDC negotiators as a first activity. This training workshop took place in Bonn from 15 to 16 April 2015, immediately after the NAP Expo and in parallel with the workshop on experiences, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

71. Additional activities are planned for the remainder of 2015, including activities relating to the translation and dissemination of knowledge products on climate change negotiations through existing networks and climate change related forums and the strengthening of South–South and North–South cooperation and knowledge exchange.

72. As a member of the board, the LEG requested that it be updated regularly on progress made in implementing this global project.

3. The strategy for adaptation of the Global Environment Facility

73. The GEF stated that its programming strategy for adaptation is captured in two strategic pillars, namely:

(a) Integrating climate change adaptation into relevant bodies, plans, programmes and decision-making processes in a continuous, progressive and iterative manner as a means to identify and address short-, medium- and long-term adaptation needs;

(b) Expanding synergies with other GEF focal areas.

74. The first pillar focuses on addressing the adaptation priorities that countries have already identified, while advancing NAP processes and ensuring continuous integration into development planning processes. The second pillar builds on the experience of the GEF of multi-trust fund projects and programmes over the past four years with a view to more strategically pursuing synergies across adaptation and other focal areas.

75. In moving forward, the GEF intends to clarify the added value of its adaptation programme vis-à-vis other funds and mechanisms.

4. Lessons learned from completed national adaptation programmes of action

76. Paragraphs 77–88 below present the lessons learned collected by the GEF and its agencies from the completed NAPA projects funded through the LDCF.

Planning and design

77. A good design leads to good implementation, which in turn leads to good project results. There is a better chance for a project that is well designed to be a success. Every step of the way counts in the success of a project and it is much easier to succeed when all these steps are relevant and implemented effectively and efficiently (Bhutan).

78. The underestimation of costs in the development of micro-projects can be a contributing factor to failure (Burkina Faso).

79. Working with various projects at the same time can help the operation of the project to be more effective than a stand-alone project. Synergies can be developed between projects with knowledge and experience sharing while competition between projects needs to be prevented (Cambodia).

80. Key factors in the success of the mainstreaming activities are the continuous following up with tangible investment support, a strong focus on community participation and 'hand-holding' support from local authorities. Without investment support, stakeholders can be demotivated in their mainstreaming efforts, especially at the provincial, district and commune levels (Cambodia).

81. Full-time coordination is essential in making sure that sufficient resources are allocated and results are compiled, interpreted and disseminated in a timely manner (Samoa).

82. For science-focused activities, sufficient time needs to be allocated to validate data and to allow interpretation and dissemination. Without adequate preparedness, there is a risk to the overall quality of the results (Samoa).

Stakeholder participation

83. In addition to capacity development, a project procuring tangible deliverables that are selected by stakeholders brings concrete results to stakeholders and beneficiaries with positive direct and immediate impacts on them. It contributes to a strong participation of stakeholders and beneficiaries in project activities and overall to a better effectiveness of project activities (Bhutan).

Implementation strategies

84. The adoption of an adaptive management of projects is necessary to effectively respond to needs and priorities of stakeholders and beneficiaries. Such a type of project management offers the capacity to adapt the projects to changes, including disruptive events, and yet safeguard their overall efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, conducting a technical review of these projects towards their end is an excellent way to document/detail their achievements. It provides a body of knowledge – approaches, methodologies, lessons learned and best practices – that can be made available to all through the Web and contribute to their replication and scaling up in the country and in the region (Bhutan).

85. A technical committee that supports project implementation and acts as an intermediate technical body between a high-level project steering committee and the project implementation units can provide both agility in decision-making and political leverage by enabling access by project implementation units to other relevant institutions. (Cabo Verde).

86. An intervention in the area of adaptation to climate change can produce sustainable results if the decentralized structures as well as the beneficiary communities are involved in

the implementation and if the emphasis is put on the strengthening of the organizational and operational capacities of these actors. Such an approach facilitates the implementation of the project and ensures ownership of project achievements (Burkina Faso).

87. Local structures are good relays in the monitoring of activities, especially after the project has ended (Burkina Faso).

88. National implementation modality should be tailored for multi-sectoral projects (Samoa).

5. Lessons learned from programmes developed by the Global Environment Facility

89. The GEF also shared with the LEG some initial lessons from its regional and global programmes, including:

(a) The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change regional programme (Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)), which addressed the need of 13 Pacific countries to climate-proof infrastructure assets, public health systems and natural resources management through ridge to reef approaches;

(b) The Sahel and West Africa Programme in Support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (LDCF); the programme is an early example of a programmatic approach that integrates adaptation and the pursuit of multiple global environmental benefits;

(c) The initiative on Climate Information for Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in Africa (LDCF), and a similar one for the Latin American countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador and Peru) (SCCF);

(d) Integrated Approach Pilot Programme on Enhancing Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa (GEF Trust Fund); through this approach supporting 12 countries, the GEF is seeking to position the management of natural capital (land, soil, water, vegetation and genetic resources) as a priority in the transformation of the agriculture sector for food security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

90. The four programmes mentioned above have helped to show that a programmatic approach can provide an opportunity to address adaptation in multiple sectors and on multiple scales, with a longer time frame and greater potential for resource optimization, and an opportunity for enhanced partnerships, catalytic effects, synergies including among MEAs, and continuous learning.

K. Discussions with the Green Climate Fund

91. Following the mandate it received at COP 20 to consider how to support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the GCF,[38] the LEG and the secretariat of the GCF had discussions via Skype on the second day of the LEG meeting. The questions that the LEG asked the secretariat of the GCF are contained in annex III.

92. A few days before, at the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, a representative of the GCF secretariat presented, via Skype, the current situation in the GCF. In addition, the LEG interacted with a representative of the secretariat of the GCF at the NAP Expo 2015.

93. The following information was shared by the GCF:

(a) The GCF sees the LDCs as a priority and is open to opportunities to support this group of countries in accessing resources;

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[38] Decision 3/CP.20.

(b) One area for the provision of support is the readiness programme, which aims to provide support to countries with lower capacity to access the Fund's resources. The Board of the GCF recognized that not only the LDCs but also the small island developing States (SIDS) and the African countries would fall into this category;

(c) Countries that are interested in securing readiness support for NAPs need to approach the GCF at their earliest convenience. A conversation between the GCF and the country will take place to understand the country's needs, which could then lead to the development of a budget and the securement of readiness funding to support the formulation of NAPs. The readiness programme could also be used to identify and implement the country's already formulated projects and programmes;

(d) There is no cap or ceiling per country in the GCF, except for the readiness programme, where a cap is set. In this instance it is up to USD 1 million per country per year for countries accessing the readiness funding with the support of a multilateral entity and USD 300,000 for the ones seeking direct access;

(e) While it is agreed that 50 per cent of adaptation resources are to be channelled to LDCs, SIDS and African countries, the modalities for applying, reviewing and accessing resources from the GCF are the same for all countries;

(f) The GCF has not set any deadlines for accepting project proposals. It expects to receive them on an ongoing basis. On 13 March 2015, the representative of the secretariat of the GCF who spoke via Skype with the LEG indicated that as soon as multilateral and/or national entities are accredited, LDCs and other countries will be able to submit proposals to the GCF. The first entities will be accredited through so-called fast-tracked accreditation in the first half of 2015, while other entities could be accredited by the end of 2015;[39]

(g) If at least 50 per cent of the pledges to the GCF are confirmed and turned into a legal instrument, the GCF plans to fund the first set of project and programme proposals by October 2015;

(h) In addition to providing funding to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the GCF also welcomes NAPA project proposals.

94. The GCF representative further highlighted some of the areas where a collaboration with the LEG would be useful, including:

(a) Informing the LDCs that the GCF is moving into full operation and is very interested in engaging with them to identify their support needs, in particular in the context of the GCF readiness programme;

(b) Assisting in the dissemination of the fourth strategic impact result areas of the GCF;

(c) Understanding how to make adaptation strategies developed by countries fundable under the GCF;

(d) Clarifying the concept of intended nationally determined contributions, in particular with regard to what countries expect the contribution of multilateral funding sources to be after 2020.

95. The LEG agreed to continue to collaborate with the GCF, through its secretariat, to provide relevant information on the operation of the Fund to the LDCs. Building on the

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[39] As at 14 April 2015, seven entities have been accredited by the GCF. Further information is available at <http://www.gcfund.org/operations/accreditation/accredited-entities.html>.

fruitful engagement with the secretariat of the GCF at the meeting, the LEG decided to invite a representative of the secretariat of the Fund to each of its meetings.

III. Work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2015

96. The LEG reviewed the progress made in implementing its work programme for 2014–2015. In addition to the existing activities, which are either under implementation or will be implemented in 2015, the LEG identified new activities to be conducted in the final year of its current mandate.

97. The LEG also discussed the prioritization of its activities, noting the encouragement by SBI 40 to the LEG to maintain flexibility in the management of its work programme, taking into account available resources.[40] It decided to give priority to the following three activities until its next meeting, to be held in the third quarter of 2015:

(a) The three remaining regional training workshops on NAPs;

(b) The finalization and dissemination of the first set of publications for 2015;

(c) The further operationalization of NAP Central.

1. List of publications being prioritized and finalized

98. The LEG noted that the following publications are in the process of being finalized:

(a) A publication on strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs;[41]

(b) The third volume of the publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs. The publication will focus on the initial work that can be undertaken as part of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The LEG noted with satisfaction that the publication applied the revised methodology for capturing best practices and lessons learned as developed by the advisory group.[42] The LEG provided additional comments to facilitate its finalization;

(c) Revised versions of the technical papers on regional synergy and synergy among MEAs;

(d) Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be supported in the LDCs;

(e) A sourcebook for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, focusing on putting science and policy into practice. The sourcebook is structured into thematic modules, corresponding to the 10 essential functions of the NAP process developed by the LEG (see box 2). It focuses on 'how to', building on experience and best practices of countries. It also shows tools and other resources of direct use to countries to facilitate their work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, while avoiding marketing any specific approaches. It strives to use well-tested approaches, and ones that have been published through a peer-review process. The LEG agreed to continue testing the modules in the remaining three regional workshops it has planned in 2015, with a view to integrating additional comments and suggestions for enhancement that would be received during the workshops. The LEG also agreed to make the complete sourcebook available by December 2015;

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[40] FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 84.

[41] See document FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 38 and 39.

[42] The advisory group is composed of LEG members, a member of the Adaptation Committee and a representative of the LDC group.

(f) A brochure presenting an overview of the work of the LEG. The LEG discussed the opportunity of preparing a brochure presenting its work since its establishment in 2001 and referencing the products of the LEG. The LEG agreed that the preparation of the brochure could build upon information provided in the background paper of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG;[43]

(g) A manual for understanding and navigating NAP Central.

2. Plan for the release of all prioritized publications in 2015

99. The LEG took note of all the publications that it is preparing for this year, in particular those that it intends to publish by SBI 42 or soon thereafter. Their titles are as follows:

(a) Overview of the NAP process and other products;

(b) PEG M&E tool;

(c) Strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs;

(d) Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs, volume 3;

(e) Technical paper on regional synergy;

(f) NAP Central pamphlet.

100. The LEG decided to assemble the six publications mentioned above into one package. They will be available in English, French and Portuguese.

101. The LEG agreed that the remaining publications will be made available by SBI 43/COP 21. They are:

(a) NAP Central manual;

(b) Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be supported in the LDCs;

(c) Sourcebook for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(d) Brochure – overview of the work of the LEG;

(e) Technical paper on synergy among MEAs.

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[43] <unfccc.int/8875>.

Annex I

[English only]

Projects from the national adaptation programmes of action which have been technically cleared by the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility and are awaiting funding under the Least Developed Countries Fund

Country	*Project title*	*Date of technical clearance*	*Total Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) received (grant and fees) USD million*	*Total project cost (including LDCF project preparation grant and fees and co-financing) USD million*	*Implementing agency*
Senegal	Promoting innovative finance and community-based adaptation in communes surrounding community natural reserves (Ferlo, Niokolo-Koba, Senegal River Basin Delta and Saloum Delta)	22 July 2014	6.143	23.043	UNDP[a]
Bhutan	Climate-resilient villages in Bhutan	15 July 2014	11.772	32.772	UNDP
Sierra Leone	Adapting to climate change induced coastal risks in Sierra Leone	4 November 2014	11.142	41.142	UNDP
Benin	Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and subnational government system to climate risks and variability in Benin	14 November 2014	4.982	61.479	UNDP
Comoros	Strengthening	18 November 2014	10.000	47.650	UNDP

Country	*Project title*	*Date of technical clearance*	*Total Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) received (grant and fees)* *USD million*	*Total project cost (including LDCF project preparation grant and fees and co-financing)* *USD million*	*Implementing agency*
	Comoros resilience against climate change and variability related disaster				
Afghanistan	Adapting Afghan communities to climate-induced disaster risks	26 September 2014	6.296	61.017	UNDP
Lesotho	Strengthening climate services in Lesotho for climate-resilient development and adaptation to climate change	30 November 2014	5.606	21.516	UNEP[b]
Ethiopia	Climate change adaptation growth: implementing climate- resilient and green economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia	2 September 2014	6.983	17.433	UNDP
Chad	Chad national adaptation plan	30 November 2014	6.488	24.488	UNDP
Mozambique	Building resilience in the coastal zone through ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation	1 December 2014	6.680	31.583	UNEP
Rwanda	Building the capacity of Rwanda's Government to advance the national adaptation planning	1 January 2015	6.734	34.633	UNEP

Country	*Project title*	*Date of technical clearance*	*Total Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) received (grant and fees) USD million*	*Total project cost (including LDCF project preparation grant and fees and co-financing) USD million*	*Implementing agency*
	process				
Guinea-Bissau	Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable coastal areas and communities to climate change in Guinea-Bissau	4 December 2014	13.407	39.557	UNDP
Nepal	Developing climate-resilient livelihoods in the vulnerable watershed in Nepal	13 February 2015	7.829	47.829	UNDP
Senegal	Senegal national adaptation plan	16 December 2014	3.300	12.300	UNDP
Uganda	Integrating climate resilience into agricultural and pastoral production in Uganda, through a farmer/agropastoralist field school approach	3 February 2015	7.760	37.029	FAO[c]
Chad	Community-based climate risks management in Chad	19 March 2015	5.913	21.913	UNDP
Nepal	Ecosystem-based adaptation for climate-resilient development in the Kathmandu Valley	3 March 2015	7.000	22.184	UNEP
Malawi	Climate adaptation for sustainable water supply	18 March 2015	3.000	42.500	AfDB[d]

Country	*Project title*	*Date of technical clearance*	*Total Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) received (grant and fees)* *USD million*	*Total project cost (including LDCF project preparation grant and fees and co-financing)* *USD million*	*Implementing agency*
Lesotho	Climate change adaptation for sustainable rural water supply in lowlands Lesotho	26 January 2015	5.000	22.250	AfDB
Guinea	Strengthening climate information and early warning systems for climate-resilient development and adaptation to climate change in Guinea	30 March 2015	5.639	36.154	UNDP
Regional project (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Timor-Leste)	Building resilience of health systems in Asian least developed countries to climate change	24 November 2014	10.381	44.946	UNDP
Regional project (Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)	Building resilience of health systems in Pacific island least developed countries to climate change	12 March 2015	19.784	95.784	UNDP

[a] United Nations Development Programme.

[b] United Nations Environment Programme.

[c] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

[d] African Development Bank.

Annex II

[English only]

Rolling work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2015

Main activities	*Output/activity type/timing*
Objective 1: provide technical guidance and support to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) in the least developed countries (LDCs)[a]	
Expected result: the LDCs are effectively supported in the launching of, and in making progress under, their process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Develop and disseminate a publication presenting an overview of the process to formulate and implement NAPS and an overview of the guidelines for NAPs, including a glossary of commonly used terms and answers to frequently asked questions on NAPs, in English, French and Portuguese	Publication, by June 2015
Develop materials for use by countries at the national level on awareness and training activities in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	NAP sourcebook by the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), December 2015
Organize NAP Expo every year	NAP Expo, yearly
Formalizing the planning committee of the NAP Expo	Collaboration, ongoing
Organize in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee a workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Event, 16–17 April 2015
Report on the workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Information paper (document of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)) by June 2015
Respond to individual requests from Parties for support on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including through the provision of comments and feedback on draft NAPs, and the sharing of experiences and lessons learned	Technical support, upon request
Continue to compile and analyse support needs for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, on an ongoing basis, including via questionnaires to Parties during the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and other relevant events	Information presented in Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) reports to the SBI, ongoing
Compile information on bilateral and multilateral sources of funding to support the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Information to be posted on NAP Central, ongoing
Expected result: collaboration with other organizations leads to coordinated and effective support to the LDCs on NAPs	
Collaborate with a wide range of organizations through various modalities, such as technical meetings and sharing of relevant information and materials on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Collaboration, ongoing
Prepare and disseminate an information paper on how the NAP	Information paper, by COP 21

Main activities	*Output/activity type timing*
process can be supported in the LDCs	
Conduct regional training workshops on NAPs for the LDCs	Training workshops, 2014–2015
Objective 2: provide support to the LDCs on the preparation, revision/update and implementation of NAPAs[b]	
Expected result: the LDCs are effectively supported in the implementation of NAPAs	
Continue to invite the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its agencies, relevant organizations and experts to the LEG meetings and events to explore the issues faced by some LDCs in implementing NAPAs, and to provide information to the SBI on ways and means to address these issues with a view to enhancing the implementation of NAPAs	Information presented in LEG reports to the SBI
Conduct surveys/case studies to collect information on remaining needs of the LDCs for the full implementation of NAPAs	Information presented in LEG report to the SBI, by SBI 43
Expected result: the LDCs are assisted in the preparation, revision and update of their NAPAs	
Respond to individual requests for support in the preparation, revision and update of NAPAs, including through the provision of comments and feedback on draft NAPAs and draft revised and updated NAPAs, and the sharing of experiences and lessons learned	Technical support
Objective 3: support knowledge management and outreach in supporting adaptation planning, prioritization and implementation in the LDCs[c]	
Expected result: the LDCs are effectively supported through enhanced access to the best available information useful for their adaptation efforts	
Continue to further develop NAP Central to serve as a universally accessible web-based central repository and hub for information pertinent to the process to formulate and implement NAPS	Further operationalization in 2015, increased use of the online platform
Develop a pamphlet on accessing NAP Central (NAP Central pamphlet)	Pamphlet, by June 2015
Develop a manual on NAP Central	Publication, by COP 21
Prepare and disseminate the third volume of the publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs, in English, French and Portuguese	Publication, by June 2015
Communicate complementary key information to the LDCs, through regular notes, in response to key concerns (such as on accessing funding under the Least Developed Countries Fund), in cooperation with the GEF and its agencies	Information notes to the LDCs, ongoing
Develop case studies capturing good practices and lessons learned on issues related to adaptation planning in collaboration with the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change	Information to be used in various LEG and Nairobi work programme products

Main activities	*Outputs/activity type/timing*
Objective 4: provide guidance and advice on the integration of adaptation into development planning and on strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs[d]	
Expected result: the LDCs are effectively assisted in their efforts to integrate gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities into adaptation	
Complete and disseminate an information paper on strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs	Publication, by June 2015
Develop and disseminate an information paper on strengthening considerations regarding vulnerable communities in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs	Publication, by COP 21
Objective 5: promote the quality and achievement of results through support for the monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps in the context of NAPAs, NAPs and the LDC work programme in the LDCs[e]	
Expected result: support for monitoring the impact and effectiveness of efforts to address vulnerability is provided	
Develop a technical paper describing the tool for monitoring and evaluating progress, effectiveness and gaps in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (PEG M&E tool)	Technical paper, by June 2015
Compile and analyse information to monitor progress and effectiveness, and identify gaps in the implementation of NAPAs, the LDC work programme and NAPs	Compilation, monitoring and analysis, ongoing
Objective 6: support the implementation of the LDC work programme[f]	
Expected result: implementation of the LDC work programme is effectively facilitated	
Develop and disseminate an information paper on examples of the application of adaptation technologies in adaptation planning and implementation, in collaboration with the Technology Executive Committee	Information paper, by COP 21
Continue to collaborate with the GEF and its agencies and other organizations on ways to support the LDCs in implementing the LDC work programme, including through ways proposed in the report on the 21st meeting of the LEG[g]	Technical support, ongoing
Collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme on the global support programme for LDC negotiators that they are managing, and provide inputs when required	Collaboration, upon request
Objective 7: promote synergy of adaptation-related efforts under the Convention[h]	
Expected result: coherence in support to the LDCs is promoted under the Convention, regionally and with other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)	
Complete and disseminate a technical paper on regional synergy in addressing adaptation in the LDCs	Technical paper, by June 2015
Complete and disseminate a technical paper on synergy among MEAs in addressing adaptation in the LDCs	Technical paper, by COP 21
Prepare a report on reporting channels under the Convention, in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, to serve as	Information paper, by COP 21

Main activities	*Output/activity type/timing*
background information for discussions on reporting for the process to formulate and implement NAPs during the meeting on experiences, good practices and lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Continue to collaborate with the Adaptation Committee, including on revision of methodologies for capturing and sharing best practices and lessons learned, and further development of NAP Central, NAP Expo, training on NAPs and the Adaptation Committee task force on NAPs	Collaboration, ongoing
Continue collaboration with other bodies under the Convention, including the Technology Executive Committee, the Standing Committee on Finance and the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention	Collaboration, ongoing
Objective 8: interact with the Green Climate Fund (GCF)to consider how best to support LDC Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Expected result: the LEG collaboration with the GCF contributed to increasing awareness of how the LDCs can access and use the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Collaborate with the GCF to provide relevant and timely information to the LDCs on the operation of the Fund, and invite a representative of the Fund to the LEG meetings	Collaboration, ongoing
Develop an information note orientating LDCs to the GCF website	Information note, in the course of 2015
Objective 8: promoting and ensuring coherence of support being provided to the LDCs for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Expected result: the LEG engagement with the global support programmes contributes to effective support to the LDCs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	
Collaborate with the global support programmes in their provision of support to the process to formulate and implement NAPs to ensure coherence with the NAP guidelines, including by serving on the boards of the global support programmes	Collaboration, technical support, ongoing
Expected result: the LEG contribution to the work of relevant organizations facilitates the provision of coherence in country-level support, including country-level training	
Provide information on the NAP guidelines and contribute, without any implied endorsement, to the work of the NAP technical working group and other organizations, as they develop individual or joint supplementary materials to the NAP guidelines	Advice, ongoing

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[a] Decision 5/CP.17, paragraphs 13 and 14.

[b] Decisions 29/CP.7, 4/CP.11, paragraph 2, 8/CP.13, paragraph 4, and 6/CP.16, paragraphs 1 and 2.

[c] Decisions 29/CP.7, 4/CP.11, paragraph 2, 8/CP.13, paragraph 4, 6/CP.16, paragraphs 1 and 2, and 5/CP.17, paragraphs 13 and 14.

[d] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 2(a).

[e] Decisions 29/CP.7, 6/CP.16 and 5/CP.17.

[f] Decision 5/CP.14, paragraph 2.

[g] FCCC/SBI/2012/7, paragraphs 31–45.

[h] Decisions 29/CP.7, 5/CP.17, paragraph 17, and 1/CP.18, paragraphs 55 and 56.

Annex III

[English only]

List of questions from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to the Green Climate Fund as feedback to the presentation made by the Green Climate Fund on 9 March 2015

1. What are the specific mandates and modalities in place that the Green Climate Fund (GCF) is mandated (by the Conference of the Parties, its Board) to support least developed countries (LDCs)? What are the special access modalities for LDCs given the special status of LDCs under the Convention? Are there simplified and/or flexible procedures for the LDCs to access the GCF?

2. What are the important results under the GCF Board that an LDC needs to be aware of in order to adequately prepare its engagement with the Fund?

3. Given its experience with readiness programmes in the LDCs, what gaps and needs has the GCF found so far? How can the Least Developed Countries Expert Group assist in overcoming those gaps and needs?

4. What are key milestones this year that LDCs should be aware of, such as deadlines for project submissions, any regional targets for project approval?

5. Will the GCF investment criteria also apply to LDC projects?

6. With regard to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs):

(a) How can countries be supported in the process to formulate their NAPs as part of the readiness programme?

(b) How can the countries which have started their NAP process align with procedures under the GCF for country programming?

(c) How do countries go about further implementing or proposing for funding activities identified as priorities under the NAP process?

7. How soon will funds actually become available for LDCs, from the time they start engaging with the GCF?

8. How much and/or what are the criteria for the allocation of funds per country, within a given time frame?

9. Given the progress on the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), and that some LDCs are revising/updating their NAPAs to take into account their current circumstances and the new climate realities, how will the GCF support the implementation of projects/programmes from the NAPAs?

Annex IV

[English only]

Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group as at 12 March 2015

Mr. Abias Huongo	Angola
Mr. Ibila Djibril	Benin
Mr. Thinley Namgyel	Bhutan
Mr. Matti Nummelin	Finland
Mr. Mosuoe Letuma	Lesotho
Mr. Benon Bibbu Yassin	Malawi
Mr. Batu Krishna Uprety	Nepal
Mr. Jan Verhagen	Netherlands
Ms. Marianne Karlsen	Norway
Mr. Douglas Yee	Solomon Islands
Mr. Paul Abiziou Tchinguilou	Togo
Ms. Pepetua Election Latasi	Tuvalu
Mr. Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania